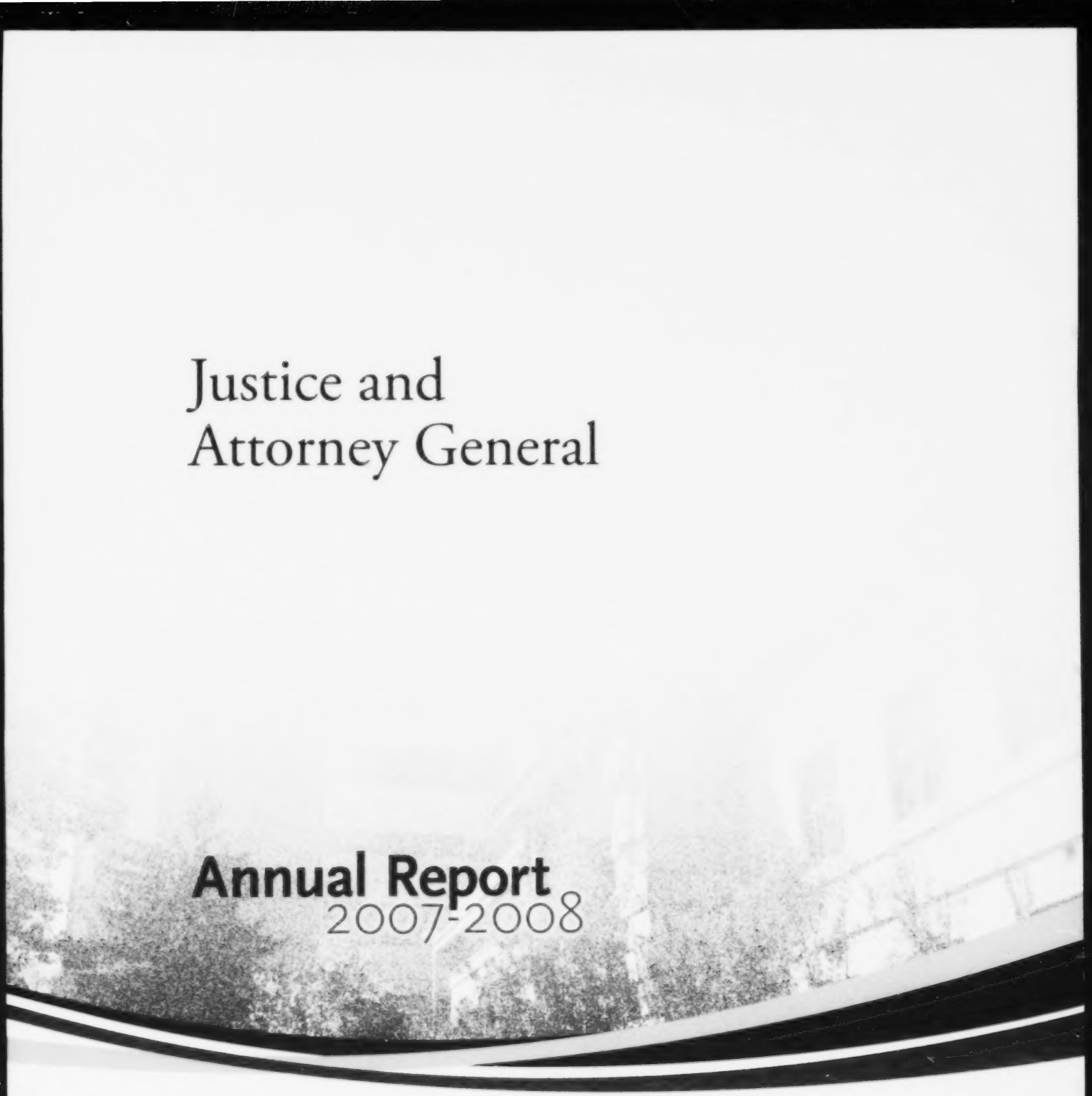
Justice and Attorney General



Annual Report 2007-2008

Alberta

Note to Readers:
Copies of the annual report are available on the Justice and Attorney General Communications website or by contacting:

Alberta Justice and Attorney General
Communications
3rd floor, Bowker Building
9833 - 109 Street
Edmonton, AB T5K 2E8

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September 2008

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Website: www.justice.gov.ab.ca

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www.albertaconnects.gov.ab.ca
For toll-free access to Alberta government offices, dial 780-310-0000 and then enter the ten-digit number or press 0 and hold for operator assistance.

CONTENTS

Preface 2

Minister's Accountability Statement 3

Vision and Mission 4

Message from the Minister 5

Management's Responsibility for Reporting 6

Overview 7

- Ministry Entities 7
- Operational Overview 14
- Highlights – Performance at a Glance 17
- Summary of Key Activities 18

Results Analysis 20

- Message from the Deputy Minister 20
- Report of the Auditor General 21
- Goals, Strategic Accomplishments and Measures 22
- Methodology 47
- Anti-Terrorism Act 50
- Financial Analysis and Discussion 51

Financial Information 57

- Ministry of Justice and Attorney General Financial Statements 57

Other Information 87

Supplementary Ministry Financial Information 95

- Office of the Public Trustee Financial Statements 95

Alphabetical List of Entities' Financial Statements in Ministry 2007-08 Annual Reports 108

Government Organization Changes 2008-09 113

PREFACE

The Public Accounts of Alberta are prepared in accordance with the *Financial Administration Act* and the *Government Accountability Act*. The Public Accounts consist of the annual report of the Government of Alberta and the annual reports of each of the 20 Ministries.

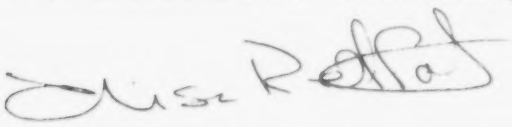
The annual report of the Government of Alberta released June 24, 2008 contains the Minister of Finance's accountability statement and the consolidated financial statements of the Province. The *Measuring Up* report released June 24, 2008 provides a comparison of the actual performance results to desired results set out in the government's business plan.

On March 12, 2008, the government announced new ministry structures. Since the 2007-08 fiscal year was substantially completed prior to this announcement, ministry annual reports and financial statements have been prepared as if the restructuring took place on April 1, 2008, to provide proper accountability for the 2007-08 fiscal year against the original business plan.

This annual report of the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General contains the Minister's accountability statement, the audited consolidated financial statements of the Ministry and a comparison of actual performance results to desired results set out in the Ministry business plan. This Ministry annual report also includes other financial information as required by the *Financial Administration Act* and *Government Accountability Act*, either as separate reports or as a part of the financial statements, to the extent that the Ministry has anything to report.

MINISTER'S ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT

The Ministry's annual report for the year ended March 31, 2008, was prepared under my direction in accordance with the *Government Accountability Act* and the government's accounting policies. All of the government's policy decisions as at September 12, 2008 with material economic or fiscal implications of which I am aware have been considered in the preparation of this report.



Alison Redford, Q.C.
Minister of Justice and Attorney General

VISION AND MISSION

Vision

A fair and safe society supported by a trusted justice system.

Mission

To protect the rights of all individuals in Alberta and advance the interests of society by fostering:

- Safe communities
- Access to justice
- Respect for the law
- Understanding of and confidence in the justice system
- The legal foundation for social cohesion and economic prosperity

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

It was exceptionally busy in 2007-08 and Alberta Justice has accomplished a great number of impressive achievements. The Ministry was tasked with leading one of government's top five priorities: to promote strong and vibrant communities and reduce crime so Albertans feel safe.

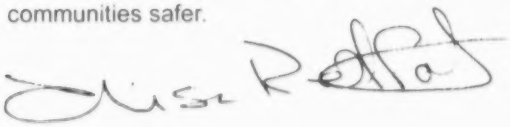
Work on this important initiative began right away. In spring 2007, The Crime Reduction and Safe Communities Task Force met with over 1,700 Albertans in 14 communities across the province. As a result of their public consultations, meetings, and research, the Task Force issued 31 recommendations to make communities safer. The recommendations focused on five priority areas including drug and alcohol addictions, laws and the courts, family, children and youth, policing and community action. The report, *Keeping Communities Safe*, called for a balance of prevention, treatment and enforcement initiatives to address crime in our communities. In the fall, government accepted 29 of the recommendations and cross-ministerial work began immediately on implementing them.

As part of improving access to justice for Albertans, Alberta Justice celebrated the opening of the Calgary Court Centre. The $300 million court house is one of the largest and most technically advanced buildings of its kind in North America. The new court centre has the Court of Queen's Bench, the Provincial Court of Alberta and 73 court rooms under one roof and has replaced five smaller court facilities that were scattered in downtown Calgary.

More Albertans are choosing the daunting task of representing themselves in court and we have made it a priority that self-represented litigants (SRLs) have increased access to justice. Law Information Centres (LInC) opened in Edmonton, Red Deer and Grande Prairie. Now SRLs are able to visit these centres to learn about general court procedures, view online videos regarding courtroom procedures, find out about alternatives to court and obtain legal information. Since opening the centres in 2007, staff has helped thousands of SRLs navigate through civil and criminal matters in person, over the phone and by email.

Reducing family violence has always been a key priority for our Ministry and in November 2007, we launched the multi-disciplinary Alberta Relationship Threat Assessment and Management Initiative (ARTAMI) in order tc manage high-risk family violence cases. To increase awareness of family violence issues in the province, Crown prosecutors continued to receive cross-sector family violence training with police and other justice partners. Alberta Justice has also been working to streamline Family Justice Services (FJS) across the province and in 2007 FJS merged with Family Law Information Centres into a single organization.

Our vision at Alberta Justice is "a fair and safe society supported by a trusted justice system" and, as the new Minister of Justice, I am extremely proud of the work our Ministry accomplished in 2007-08 towards achieving our vision. I look forward to continuing working with our partners towards making Alberta's communities safer.



Alison Redford, Q.C.
Minister of Justice and Attorney General

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR REPORTING

The Ministry of Justice and Attorney General includes:

The executives of the individual entities within the Ministry have the primary responsibility and accountability for the respective entities. Collectively, the executives ensure the Ministry complies with all relevant legislation, regulations and policies.

Ministry business plans, annual reports, performance results and the supporting management information are integral to the government's fiscal and business plans, annual report, quarterly reports and other financial and performance reporting.

Responsibility for the integrity and objectivity of the consolidated financial statements and performance results for the Ministry rests with the Minister of Justice and Attorney General. Under the direction of the Minister, I oversee the preparation of the Ministry's annual report, including consolidated financial statements and performance results. The consolidated financial statements and the performance results, of necessity, include amounts that are based on estimates and judgments. The consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with the government's stated accounting policies.

As Deputy Minister, in addition to program responsibilities, I establish and maintain the Ministry's financial administration and reporting functions. The Ministry maintains systems of financial management and internal control which give consideration to costs, benefits, and risks that are designed to:

- provide reasonable assurance that transactions are properly authorized, executed in accordance with prescribed legislation and regulations, and properly recorded so as to maintain accountability of public money,
- provide information to manage and report on performance,
- safeguard the assets and properties of the province under Ministry administration,
- provide Executive Council, Treasury Board, the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Justice and Attorney General any information needed to fulfill their responsibilities, and
- facilitate preparation of Ministry business plans and annual reports required under the *Government Accountability Act*.

In fulfilling my responsibilities for the Ministry, I have relied, as necessary, on the executives of the individual entities within the Ministry.

Ray Bodnarek, Q.C.
Acting Deputy Minister of Justice
and Acting Deputy Attorney General
August 26, 2008

OVERVIEW

Ministry Entities

Minister of Justice and Attorney General

- **Alberta Review Board**
- **Fatality Review Board**
- **Judicial Council**
- **Notaries Public Review Committee**
- **Provincial Court Nominating Committee**
- **Rules of Court Committee**

Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Attorney General

- **Aboriginal Justice Initiatives Unit**
- **Communications**
- **Corporate Services**
  - Claims and Recoveries
  - Financial Services
  - Information Services
  - Justice Information Management System Project Office
  - Planning and Reporting Services
- **Court Services**
  - Calgary Court Operations
  - Edmonton Court Operations
  - Program Support
  - Regional Court Operations
- **Criminal Justice**
  - Appeals
  - General Prosecutions
  - Management and Leadership Services
  - Policy and Staff Development
  - Special Prosecutions
- **Human Resource Services**
- **Legal Services**
  - Civil Law
  - Legislative Counsel
  - Public Trustee
- **Maintenance Enforcement Program**
  - Client Services
  - Collections
  - Policy and Legislation
  - Program Support
- **Medical Examiner's Office**
- **Policy Secretariat**

Boards, Agencies and Committees

Alberta Review Board

The Honourable Judge Michael Stevens-Guille
Chair
Phone: 780-422-5994
Fax: 780-427-1762

The Alberta Review Board makes or reviews dispositions concerning any accused person for whom a verdict of "not criminally responsible because of mental disorder" or "unfit to stand trial" is rendered, according to the provisions of the *Criminal Code of Canada*. The board also has the responsibility for determining whether a person should be subject to a detention order or conditional discharge, or be granted an absolute discharge. The board's nine members are appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

Fatality Review Board

Margaret Mrazek, Q.C.
Chair
Phone: 403-297-8123
Fax: 403-297-3429

The Fatality Review Board is responsible for reviewing certain deaths investigated by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner and recommending to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General whether a public fatality inquiry should be held. The board is appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council and is composed of a lawyer, a physician and a layperson. The Chief Medical Examiner is also a member of the board, but cannot vote on any matter before it. Cases reviewed by the board generally include accidental deaths (where recommendations could be made at a public fatality inquiry for the prevention of similar deaths in the future), cases where the cause and manner of death remain undetermined after a complete investigation, and deaths of individuals who are in police custody, in prison, certified under the *Mental Health Act*, or under the Director of Child Welfare's guardianship or in the director's custody.

The Judicial Council

The Honourable Chief Judge A. Gail Vickery
Chair
Phone: 780-427-6330
Fax: 780-427-2077

The Judicial Council screens individuals to determine if they are qualified for appointment to the Provincial Court of Alberta. The council is granted jurisdiction to deal with complaints against masters, Provincial Court judges and justices of the peace. The chair of the council is the Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of Alberta. The Minister of Justice appoints two members of this council. The remaining four members are designated under the *Judicature Act*.

Notaries Public Review Committee

Salvatore (Sam) Amelio
Chair
Phone: 780-427-5069
Fax: 780-427-6821

The Notaries Public Review Committee advises the Minister of Justice on appointments of lay notaries public. The committee consists of a member of the Law Society of Alberta, a member of the business community and a member of the Ministry, who is the secretary. All are appointed by ministerial order under the *Government Organization Act*. The committee reviews applications for appointment and then provides recommendations to the Minister of Justice.

Provincial Court Nominating Committee

Administration Office
Phone: 780-422-9625
Fax: 780-422-6613

The Provincial Court Nominating Committee provides recommendations to the Minister of Justice on the appointment of individuals to the Provincial Court of Alberta. The committee members are appointed by the Minister of Justice.

Rules of Court Committee

The Honourable
Mr. Justice J.D. Rooke
Chair
R. Maybank, Q.C.
Secretary
Phone: 780-427-4992
Fax: 780-422-6613

The Rules of Court Committee makes recommendations to the Minister of Justice on the amendments to the Rules of Court made under the *Court of Appeal Act*, the *Court of Queen's Bench Act* or any other act. The committee consists of six members: the Chief Justice of Alberta or designate, the Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench or designate, the Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of Alberta or designate, two members appointed by the Minister of Justice on recommendation of the Law Society of Alberta, and one member appointed by the Minister of Justice.

Department of Justice

Aboriginal Justice Initiatives Unit

Bronwyn Shoush
Director
Phone: 780-422-2779
Fax: 780-427-4670
e-mail: bronwyn.shoush@gov.ab.ca

The Aboriginal Justice Initiatives Unit (AJIU) provides support and strategic advice on Aboriginal justice issues to the deputy ministers and executive committees of Alberta Justice and Attorney General and Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security. AJIU liaises with First Nations and Métis authorities, and other key stakeholders, to encourage Aboriginal justice initiatives that promote safe communities, good relations between neighbours, and improved access to and understanding of the justice system.

Communications

Jay O'Neill
Director
Phone: 780-427-6154
Fax: 780-422-7363
e-mail: jay.o'neill@gov.ab.ca

Communications provides strategic communications advice to the Minister, Deputy Minister, department executive management and staff. Communications staff also work to inform Albertans about the justice system and department goals, initiatives and achievements. This includes providing Albertans timely, accurate and useful information about publicly available justice system services and resources. The branch also helps provide internal communication services to department staff on Alberta Justice policies, programs, initiatives, issues and other staff matters.

Corporate Services Division

Bruce Perry
Assistant Deputy Minister
Phone: 780-427-3301
Fax: 780-422-9639
e-mail: bruce.m.perry@gov.ab.ca

The Corporate Services Division provides strategic information, tools and processes to achieve the department's goals and enhance its effectiveness. The division provides professional services and strategic advice on matters related to cross-government initiatives, business planning and reporting, performance measurement, financial management and reporting, accounting, information technology management and strategy, and *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* administration, records management, contract management, enterprise risk management, environmental scanning, business continuity planning, capital planning and accommodation projects, and project management.

The division also manages provincial programs on behalf of Alberta Justice, including the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims program, the Abandoned and Seized Vehicle program, the Fines Enforcement program, Notaries Public Program and Commissioners for Oaths Program.

Court Services Division

Barb Hookenson
Assistant Deputy Minister
Phone: 780-427-9620
Fax: 780-422-9639
e-mail: barb.hookenson@gov.ab.ca

Court Services Division provides administrative, planning and technical support to Alberta's three courts: the Court of Appeal of Alberta (in two locations), the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta (in 13 locations) and the Provincial Court of Alberta (in 74 locations). Staff are located in 21 centres and the courts circuit to an additional 53 locations.

The three courts maintain all court records and accept a wide variety of documents for filing from the public, lawyers, law enforcement agencies and other government departments. Employees record all court proceedings, swear in or affirm witnesses and interpreters, mark and ensure the safekeeping of exhibits, process fines and other payments into court, perform searches, and provide general assistance to lawyers and the public.

Court Services Division develops strategies to provide access to a broad range of justice services including mediation and other appropriate dispute resolution mechanisms. Court Services also operates Legal Information Centres to provide assistance to self-represented litigants, and law libraries to provide legal information to judges, Crown Prosecutors, other lawyers and the public.

Criminal Justice Division

Greg Lepp, Q.C.
Assistant Deputy Minister
Phone: 780-427-5046
Fax: 780-422-9639
e-mail: greg.lepp@gov.ab.ca

Criminal Justice Division prosecutes all offences under the *Criminal Code of Canada*, the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* and the provincial statutes in all the courts of the province and the Supreme Court of Canada. This work includes, but is not limited to, prosecuting homicide, assault (sexual, aggravated), impaired driving, break and enter, theft and fraud, speeding and other driving offences, and excludes adult drug offences. Criminal Justice Division works with justice system stakeholders and the community to promote safe communities and implement alternative approaches to the administration of justice.

The division is divided into five branches. The Management and Leadership Services Branch provides direct service to the Minister and executive management, and is responsible for leading policy and planning initiatives within the division and for coordinating these activities with other stakeholders. The Appeals Branch is responsible for criminal appeals in the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada, and provides legal and strategic advice with respect to legislation impacting the Criminal Justice Division. The Special Prosecutions Branch provides specialized prosecutorial services in areas of organized crime, significant commercial or corporate crime, or crimes committed against government. The General Prosecutions Branch is responsible for all cases apart from those assigned to the other branches. The Policy and Staff Development Branch is responsible for Federal/Provincial/Territorial relations, the Crown Prosecutor's Policy Manual and staff education and training.

Human Resource Services Division

Virginia Van Horn
Executive Director
Phone: 780-427-0441
Fax: 780-422-9639
e-mail: virginia.vanhorn@gov.ab.ca

The Human Resource Services Division provides strategic direction and consultation to assist Alberta Justice in the achievement of cross-government and corporate human resource plan goals and strategies.

Through a team of human resource professionals, the division provides advisory services and support in the areas of staffing, employee/labour relations, organizational design and change, as well as job evaluation. Working in partnership with divisions, the Human Resource Services Division develops and enhances human resource programs such as Performance Management, Rewards and Recognition, Learning and Development, Succession Management, Ambassador Program, Mentoring Program, and Health and Wellness, including Occupational Health and Safety.

Legal Services Division

Neil Dunne, Q.C.
Acting Assistant Deputy Minister
Phone: 780-427-0912
Fax: 780-422-9639
e-mail: neil.dunne@gov.ab.ca

Peter Pagano, Q.C.
Chief Legislative Counsel
Phone: 780-427-0303
Fax: 780-422-7366
e-mail: peter.pagano@gov.ab.ca

Cindy Bentz
Public Trustee
Phone: 780-427-5689
Fax: 780-422-9136
e-mail: cindy.bentz@gov.ab.ca

The Legal Services Division is responsible for all civil legal services to the Government of Alberta.

The Civil Law Branch provides legal and related strategic services to all government ministries and represents them in matters before the courts and tribunals. The Constitutional and Aboriginal Law Branch provides specialized advice to the government concerning constitutional and Aboriginal matters. The Legislative Reform Branch provides advice on legislative policy.

The Legislative Counsel Office is responsible for drafting government public bills, regulations and Orders in Council. This office also works with the Queen's Printer to make the laws of Alberta available to the public.

The Public Trustee, acting under the *Public Trustee Act*, protects the financial interests of vulnerable Albertans by administering the estates of dependent adults, decedents and minors.

Medical Examiner's Office

Dr. Graeme Dowling, M.D.
Chief Medical Examiner
Phone: 780-427-4987
Fax: 780-422-1265
e-mail: graeme.dowling@gov.ab.ca

The Medical Examiner's Office investigates all unexplained natural deaths and unnatural deaths in Alberta under the authority of the *Fatality Inquiries Act*. The findings may be used to assist in resolving civil and criminal law matters that often arise after a death. The Fatality Review Board reviews cases investigated by the Medical Examiner's Office and recommends to the Minister of Justice as to which cases a public fatality inquiry should be held. These inquiries are held before a Provincial Court judge.

Maintenance Enforcement Program

Manuel da Costa
Executive Director
Phone: 780-401-7500
Fax: 780-422-3735
e-mail: manuel.dacosta@gov.ab.ca

The Maintenance Enforcement Program (MEP) ensures that individuals meet their obligations to pay spousal and child support under the terms of their court orders and certain agreements. Once an order or agreement has been registered with MEP, maintenance payments that the debtor (payor) would normally remit directly to the creditor (recipient) are sent to MEP. Once the funds have cleared through a trust account the program forwards the payment to the creditor.

In cases of default or non-payment by the debtor, MEP has the legislative authority to take steps to enforce the support owed. These enforcement tools include registrations at the Land Titles and Personal Property Registries; wage, non-wage and federal support deduction notices; federal licence (passport) denials; motor vehicle registry restrictions and driver's license cancellations; registration at the credit bureau and compelling attendance at default court hearings. MEP also has access to a variety of databases to assist in locating a debtor or a debtor's assets or income.

There are approximately 96,000 creditors and debtors and over 64,000 children registered with MEP.

Policy Secretariat

Kurt Sandstrom
Executive Director
Phone: 780-422-4160
Fax: 780-422-9639
e-mail: kurt.sandstrom@gov.ab.ca

The Policy Secretariat supports the Ministry by providing policy coordination, development, advice, and research. Additionally, the unit assists in partnership facilitation and leads Alberta Justice in enhancing public understanding and confidence in the justice system.

To achieve this, the Policy Secretariat works with the Executive Management Committee, divisions and outside stakeholders to develop justice policy that will best serve the public's interest.

Operational Overview

Core Business Functions

Alberta Justice had four core business functions in 2007-08.

Prosecutions

The Criminal Justice Division has responsibility for general prosecutions of persons charged with *Criminal Code*, *Youth Criminal Justice Act* and provincial statute offences, and also handles criminal appeals in the Alberta Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada on behalf of Alberta's Attorney General. By vigorously prosecuting cases involving serious and violent crime, and working with individuals and organizations in the community to identify and implement improved and alternative approaches to the administration of criminal justice, the division promotes safe communities for Albertans. Special Prosecutions provides specialized prosecution of commercial, organized, technology and Internet crime cases, management of the prosecution of large-scale cases, and mutual international legal assistance. Criminal Justice also provides management and leadership services, such as developing criminal law policy for the province and supporting criminal law consultation with other levels of government.

Courts

Alberta courts are presided over by an independent judiciary. There are three courts in the province – the Court of Appeal, the Court of Queen's Bench, and the Provincial Court. Court Services Division provides administrative support to the courts. Court Services also provides policy advice and assistance to the Minister and the Ministry in relation to court issues. Court Services' stakeholders include the public, the legal profession, law enforcement services, correctional authorities and various service providers.

Justice Services to Albertans

The Ministry promotes fair and equitable access to the civil and criminal justice system by providing a broad range of justice services through the courts, prosecution, and appropriate dispute resolution mechanisms. Access to justice also means addressing barriers that reduce Albertans' access to the justice system by providing legal representation for those in need of assistance, as well as accurate and up-to-date information to increase awareness and knowledge of the justice system. In addition, services such as maintenance enforcement, estate and trust administration services, the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Program and legal aid contribute to the preservation of a safe society for Albertans.

Legal and Strategic Services to Government

Civil Law provides legal services to all government ministries and represents them in matters before the courts and tribunals. Constitutional and Aboriginal Law provides specialized services to the government in constitutional and Aboriginal law matters. Legislative Reform provides advice on legislative policy. The Legislative Counsel Office is responsible for drafting government public bills, regulations and Orders in Council.

Key Factors Influencing Performance

Recognizing trends, identifying new challenges, and being aware of changes in diverse socio-economic sectors are an important part of setting the Ministry's strategic priorities and addressing justice concerns for Albertans. Many of these opportunities and challenges are complex and involve other stakeholders and jurisdictions. The following factors influence the Ministry in developing and achieving goals and strategies.

- The role of Courts in Alberta is changing. Alberta Justice has made substantial progress in developing and implementing appropriate dispute resolution mechanisms over the last few years. As a result, litigants will potentially have increased access to justice, lower costs, and more satisfaction with outcomes and the justice system.
- The availability of sufficient people to meet labour demands is becoming a problem in Alberta, and this trend is expected to continue. In ten years, the province may face a shortfall of as many as 100,000 workers. To continue to meet staffing requirements, Alberta Justice and the Government of Alberta must take a proactive approach to both recruitment and retention.
- Family violence impacts not only those directly involved, but also the children who witness the violence and the community and society as a whole. Alberta women experience some of the highest rates of spousal homicide and stalking in Canada, and continue to be the most likely to report experiencing spousal violence. Alberta Justice is leading a number of initiatives to reduce family violence. Alberta's government will continue to work collaboratively across departments, with other levels of government, and with community partners, professionals and families to break the cycle of family violence.
- Like many governments and private organizations across Canada and internationally, Alberta Justice works on ways to involve the public and stakeholders in developing collaborative approaches to public issues. The challenge for Alberta Justice is to craft a system that employs quality management information to ensure that decisions are based on evidence, where stakeholders can have confidence that they have input into the decision-making process.
- Albertans, like other Canadians, have a lower level of confidence in the justice system relative to other public institutions. This may be, in part, due to a lack of knowledge about the justice system. Consequently, the Ministry works on educational programs for young and adult Albertans. In addition, the increasing complexity of cases before the courts, public awareness of crimes, sentencing and investigative techniques create increasing public expectations. Ongoing dialogue between key justice system participants is required to aid in accurate dissemination of information to the public.
- All Albertans are entitled to fair and equitable access to and treatment by the justice system. They want to be able to resolve conflicts with the least amount of time, cost, and complexity possible, and they want to do it close to their own communities. Self-represented litigants (SRLs) often have difficulty accessing the justice system, and appear to use more justice system resources due to a lack of understanding of the system and its processes. This has led to the recognition of the need to deal with SRL services in a coordinated way. The Ministry is taking a number of steps to provide services to SRLs, and continues to work to improve processes.

- The nature of crime in Alberta and all jurisdictions is changing, and technology (particularly the Internet) is instrumental in facilitating this change. Investigating and prosecuting the many facets of cyber crime is resource-intensive, may require skills and knowledge external to law enforcement and the prosecution service, and may be national or international in scope. Alberta's success in countering cyber crime is dependent on improved coordination, sharing and use of criminal intelligence in support of integrated law enforcement and prosecutorial strategies.
- Traffic safety issues have a tremendous financial impact on government through the provision of health care, loss of productivity, insurance issues, enforcement and prosecution, and road construction and maintenance. In response, the Traffic Safety Plan and a number of other initiatives have been developed. A coordinated effort from all involved parties is required to achieve significant change.
- Bill C-2, *Tackling Violent Crime Act* (an act to amend the *Criminal Code* and to make consequential amendments to other acts, S.C. 2008, c. 6), was introduced in Parliament and has passed the House of Commons and the Senate. The *Tackling Violent Crime Act* makes the dangerous and long-term offender provisions more effective, imposes stricter firearms offences, and raises the age of consent to sexual activity from 14 to 16 years of age and includes tougher impaired driving laws. Alberta has been advocating for these changes at Federal/ Provincial/ Territorial forums for several years, and is expecting these changes to have a significant impact on the criminal justice system once the act comes into force in 2008.

Highlights – Performance at a Glance

Goal	Measure	Target	Result
Core Business One: Prosecutions			
Goal 1: Promote safe communities in Alberta	1.a Public perception of safety in the home (p 25)	91%	93%
	1.b Public perception of safety in the neighbourhood (p 26)	82%	75%
Core Business Two: Courts			
Goal 2: Promote a fair and accessible civil and criminal justice system	2.a Median elapsed time from first to last appearance (p 31)	Below the Canadian median (122 days)	109 days *(Note: the latest data available are for 2006-07)*
	2.b Provincial Court civil mediation settlement rate (p 32)	63%	65%
Core Business Three: Justice Services to Albertans			
Goal 3: Provide access to justice services for Albertans in need	3.a Client satisfaction with the services of the Public Trustee's Office (p 35)	87%	90%
	3.b Maintenance Enforcement Program: Dollars due compared to dollars received (per cent collected) (p 36)	87%	100%
	3.c Client satisfaction with legal aid services (p 37)	80%	76%
Goal 4: Improve understanding of and confidence in the justice system	4.a Public knowledge of the justice system (p 40)	65%	65%
	4.b Public confidence in the justice system (p 41)	80%	67%
Core Business Four: Legal and Strategic Services to Government			
Goal 5: Assist government ministries to achieve their objectives through the provision of effective legal and related strategic services	5.a Client satisfaction with legal services (p 45)	89%	88%
	5.b Client satisfaction with assistance in meeting corporate goals (p 46)	85%	87%

Summary of Key Activities

In 2007-08, Alberta Justice continued to focus on ensuring the justice system is efficient, effective and responsive to the needs of Albertans. The following summary highlights some of the key activities the Ministry undertook:

Reducing Crime and Supporting Safe Communities

- The Crime Reduction and Safe Communities Task Force met with over 1,700 Albertans in 14 communities in the spring of 2007. As a result of their public consultations, meetings, a two-day symposium and research, the Task Force issued 31 recommendations to make communities safer. The report, *Keeping Communities Safe*, called for a balance of prevention, treatment and enforcement initiatives to address crime and the risk factors that lead to criminal behaviour. The government accepted 29 of the 31 recommendations and requested further study of the remaining two. Steps were immediately taken to begin addressing the Task Force recommendations.

Calgary Court Centre

- The $300 million Calgary Courts Centre, Canada's largest and most technically advanced courthouse, opened to the public in September 2007. The one-million-square-foot facility houses both the Court of Queen's Bench and the Provincial Court of Alberta. With 73 courtrooms under one roof, the new Calgary Courts Centre replaces five smaller court facilities that were scattered throughout downtown Calgary. The new courts centre also includes state-of-the-art technology that will enable advanced solutions for courtroom audio, presentation, digital signage, communication and remote conferencing.

Reducing Family Violence

- Alberta Justice is involved in several initiatives to address family violence. Currently, eight domestic violence courts operate throughout the province, to provide targeted services and counseling for offenders. The Alberta Relationship Threat Assessment and Management Initiative (ARTAMI) was launched in November 2007 to bring together experts from various fields to reduce and prevent relationship violence and stalking in Alberta. Crown prosecutors and police continue to receive cross-sector family violence training with other community partners to enhance their abilities to investigate and prosecute family violence cases. In early 2008, the *Domestic Violence Guideline for Crown Prosecutors* was finalized, which will complement the *Domestic Violence Handbook for Police and Crown Prosecutors in Alberta*. Further, the online version of the *Domestic Violence Handbook* was updated in February 2008 to ensure the information is current and accurate.

Streamlining Family Justice

- Alberta Justice has been working to streamline Family Justice Services (FJS) across the province. In 2007, FJS merged with Family Law Information Centres into a single organization. FJS will continue to expand and progress in order to offer Albertans improved access to justice.
- Court Registries and FJS also merged in Calgary to improve services to the public.

Law Information Centres

- Law Information Centres (LInC) opened in Edmonton and Red Deer on April 2, 2007 and in Grande Prairie on June 11, 2007. Staff from the Red Deer location provides outreach services at the Rimbey, Ponoka, Stettler, Rocky Mountain House and Wetaskiwin courthouses. Since LInCs opened in 2007, self-represented litigants (SRLs) are able to visit the centres to learn about general court procedures, view online videos regarding courtroom procedures, fill out forms, learn about legal advice options, find out about alternatives to court and obtain legal information.
- During 2007-08, staff from the LInC have assisted over 30,000 clients in person, and almost 2,700 by telephone, and referred 3,260 clients to appropriate agencies. Evaluation of LInC was completed and, based on the results, future expansion of LInC has been recommended.

Information Management and Efficiency

- As part of the Justice Information Management System (JIMS) initiative, Alberta Justice introduced web-based tools to help the Ministry make better use of information collected for use in evaluating operations and reporting on goals and targets. Compared to traditional paper reports, web-based tools allow more timely and detailed investigation of the statistical information so the Ministry is better able to respond to emerging concerns.
- In 2007, the JIMS Readiness Project team developed plans for completing more than 120 business process improvement workshops. This included the creation of a high-level diagram of key activities performed within the courts to serve as a starting point for workshop discussions.

Self-represented Litigants

- More Albertans have been choosing to represent themselves in court, and Alberta Justice has made it a priority to improve access to justice for self-represented litigants (SRLs). Since the opening of the first three Law Information Centres (LInC) in Edmonton, Red Deer and Grande Prairie in 2007, staff has helped thousands of SRLs in civil and criminal matters, through email, over the phone and in person. In addition to LInC, SRLs can also access the Alberta Courts website for information on a variety of subjects related to the justice system.

Governing with Integrity and Transparency - Lobbyist Registry and Online Fatality Inquiries

- The *Lobbyists Act* was passed by the Alberta Legislature in December 2007. The *Lobbyists Act* established a lobbyist registry, which provides Albertans public access to information regarding individuals and organizations seeking to influence government decision-makers and the relevant issues.
- The Office of the Ethics Commissioner will establish and administer the lobbyist registry and has appointed a person to act as Registrar.
- In September 2007, a fatality inquiry schedule, updated weekly with upcoming dates, was posted online on the Alberta Justice website to allow members of the public and media to access this information at their convenience. Fatality inquiry reports to the Attorney General were also made accessible through this website.

RESULTS ANALYSIS

Message from the Deputy Minister

The annual report details our Ministry's goals, key activities and strategic priorities for the 2007-08 fiscal year. Alberta Justice took the lead in one of the Government of Alberta's top priorities: to promote strong and vibrant communities and reduce crime so Albertans feel safe. We contribute to this important initiative by increasing access to justice and working to provide a fair and safe society supported by a trusted justice system for Albertans.

Alberta Justice released one of our Ministry's most significant reports, *Keeping Communities Safe*. This report, was a result of consultations with over 1,700 Albertans in 14 communities in spring 2007. From this extensive report, the government accepted 29 of the 31 recommendations to make communities safer. From that moment, our Ministry has been working diligently with Ministry partners to implement these recommendations.

The Justice Information Management System (JIMS) initiative was a major undertaking for Alberta Justice and the courts. The goal of JIMS is to develop more streamlined business processes through modern technology to increase the Ministry's ability to provide initiatives and programs, improve access to justice and strengthen the justice system. The JIMS will ultimately convert vast amounts of paper into electronic information to improve trial processes and make information instantly available to judges, Crown prosecutors, defense counsel, court services staff and other partners.

Alberta currently has one of the highest rates of family violence in the country, and Alberta Justice has taken significant strides to address this issue. Eight family violence courts are now operating around Alberta and provide counseling for victims and offenders. In November 2007, the Alberta Relationship Threat Assessment and Management Initiative (ARTAMI) was officially launched to coordinate the efforts of police, prosecutors and community organizations to more effectively address threats posed in violent, high-risk relationships. We will continue our collaborative work with other departments, community partners, professionals and families to end the destructive cycle of family violence.

In efforts to increase access to justice for Albertans, Law Information Centres opened in Edmonton, Red Deer and Grande Prairie, funding for Legal Aid services increased, services for self-represented litigants were improved, Family Justice Services were further streamlined, and the Calgary Court Centre opened, which is Canada's largest and most technically advanced court house.

We worked closely with the judiciary, other government ministries, non-governmental organizations, Aboriginal communities, the legal community and local government on a number of important projects. Our successes in 2007-08 could not have been achieved without their cooperation and commitment.

I commend the hard work, dedication and commitment to excellence displayed by our management team and staff. I am very proud of all of our accomplishments in 2007-08 and I sincerely thank everyone for their outstanding contributions.

Ray Bodnarek, Q.C.
Acting Deputy Minister of Justice
and Acting Deputy Attorney General

AUDITOR GENERAL *Alberta*

Report of the Auditor General on the Results of Applying Specified Auditing Procedures to Key Performance Measures

To the Members of the Legislative Assembly

Management is responsible for the integrity and objectivity of the performance results included in the *Ministry of Justice's 2007–08 Annual Report*. My responsibility is to carry out the following specified auditing procedures on key performance measures in the annual report. I verified:

Completeness

1. Key performance measures and targets matched those included in Budget 2007. Actual results are presented for all key performance measures.

Reliability

2. Information in reports from external organizations, such as Statistics Canada, matched information that the Ministry used to calculate the actual results.

3. Information in reports that originated in the Ministry matched information that the Ministry used to calculate the actual results. In addition, I tested the processes the Ministry used to compile the results.

Comparability and Understandability

4. Actual results are presented clearly and consistently with the stated methodology and are presented on the same basis as targets and prior years' information.

I found no exceptions when I performed these procedures.

As my examination was limited to these procedures, I do not express an opinion on whether the set of measures is relevant and sufficient to assess the performance of the Ministry in achieving its goals.

Fred J. Dunn FCA
Auditor General

Edmonton, Alberta
August 5, 2008

Goals, Strategic Accomplishments and Measures

Core Business One: Prosecutions

Goal One – Promote Safe Communities in Alberta

Through public consultations, Albertans have indicated that safe communities in which they can live, work, and raise their families in safety and security without fear of crime or victimization is a high priority. The crimes that threaten our communities are becoming more sophisticated and the criminal justice system must be positioned to investigate and prosecute new criminal activities.

The following section highlights the Ministry's accomplishments related to the strategies identified under Goal One in the 2007-10 Alberta Justice Business Plan.

Strategy 1.1 - Integrated Crime Reduction Strategy

Continue to co-lead the cross-ministry Integrated Crime Reduction Strategy with Solicitor General and Public Security and establish the Crime Reduction and Safe Communities Task Force to make recommendations on reducing crime and fear of crime, improving community safety, increasing public confidence in the criminal justice system and improving public awareness, education and communication among stakeholders.

- The Crime Reduction and Safe Communities Task Force held 14 public consultations between April 23, 2007 and May 24, 2007. In addition, Albertans' concerns about safety in their communities and what was being done to address those concerns were identified through a public survey, meetings, and a two-day symposium.
- This public input, as well as research and expert advice, cumulated in the Task Force's final report, *Keeping Communities Safe*, which was presented to the Minister of Justice on September 27, 2007. The detailed government response to the Task Force's recommendations was released on November 6, 2007.
- Twenty-nine of the report's 31 recommendations were accepted, including the establishment of a Safe Communities Secretariat to oversee the implementation of the Task Force's recommendations.
- The Executive Leader of the Safe Communities Secretariat commenced on March 10, 2008 and a multi-disciplinary team was created with staff from the ministries of Justice and Attorney General, Solicitor General and Public Security, Education, Health and Wellness, and Children and Youth Services.

Strategy 1.2 - Improve Road Safety

Work with traffic safety partners to implement initiatives to improve road safety in Alberta and explore opportunities to enhance the effectiveness of investigating and prosecuting impaired driving cases. The pilot phase of the *Traffic Safety Act* Fines Enforcement initiative will be concluded and the program will expand across Alberta.

- Parliament passed impaired driving legislation as part of Bill C-2, *Tackling Violent Crime Act*, based on work done by the Coordinating Committee Senior Officials/Federal/Provincial/Territorial working group on impaired driving. It will be proclaimed in 2008.

- Some recommendations of the Traffic Safety Plan, which was released December 2007, are being implemented, including the use of red-light cameras to monitor speed of vehicles through intersections. Other recommendations of the Traffic Safety Plan await government action.
- Crown Offices have been advised that Regional Traffic Safety Coordinators will act as resources for local traffic safety initiatives and will initiate and integrate regional and local community support for the Traffic Safety Plan.
- Over 60,000 overdue City of Edmonton traffic fines were loaded into the Fines Enforcement computer system and assigned to Collection Officers.
- Active collection was commenced in Fort Saskatchewan, Camrose, High Prairie and High Level. A multi-year plan has been implemented to add all other jurisdictions and to periodically refresh those already under active collection.

Strategy 1.3 - Response to Sexual Assault

Implement approved recommendations of the Chief Crown Prosecutor Subcommittee mandated to develop strategies to improve the criminal justice response to sexual assault.

- An Implementation Plan was approved by the Deputy Minister on December 9, 2007.
- A subcommittee of the Standing Committee on Prosecutions and Enforcement was established to assist in implementation of recommendations impacting police agencies.

Strategy 1.4 - Enhance Prosecutions

Enhance the capacity of the Prosecution Service to align with increasing police resources and vigorously prosecute serious and violent crime.

- Prosecutor and support staff positions were filled and an agreement was reached on new prosecutor salaries, effective September 1, 2007.
- Workload issues were addressed with the submission and approval of a business case and request for additional resources. Thirty-four new positions were approved for 2008, with additional positions approved over the next three years.
- A review of Crown Office file management processes also commenced and will include working with Court Services Division, members of the defence bar and the Provincial Court of Alberta to identify streamlining initiatives to make more effective and efficient use of limited court time and the time of those working in the court system. This review is to be completed in 2008.

Strategy 1.5 - Prevention of Family Violence

Work collaboratively with other government ministries and community partners to implement initiatives that prevent family violence and, when it does occur, effectively intervene through the advancement of the Alberta Relationship Threat Assessment and Management Initiative (ARTAMI) and the implementation of specialized court processes.

- The ARTAMI Edmonton office officially opened on November 6, 2007.
- Specialized courts are sitting in Calgary, Edmonton, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Fort McMurray, Red Deer, Grande Prairie and Airdrie.

Strategy 1.6 – Changes to Criminal Law

Partner with the federal government to support their efforts to implement minimum sentencing, reduce conditional sentencing, and establish appropriate penalties for serious crimes.

- Bill C-2, *Tackling Violent Crime Act* (an act to amend the *Criminal Code* and to make consequential amendments to other acts, S.C. 2008, c. 6), was introduced in Parliament, has passed the House of Commons and the Senate. It will come into force in stages in 2008. The *Tackling Violent Crime Act* includes criminal law reforms covering gun crimes, bail provisions, sentencing and management of violent and sexual offenders, protections of young persons from sexual exploitation, and impaired driving.
- Legislation limiting conditional sentence availability came into force on December 1, 2007.
- Alberta continued to press for mandatory reporting of child pornography by Internet Service Providers.
- Bill C-25, *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (YCJA), amendments passed second reading on February 8, 2008. The Federal Minister of Justice announced that there would be a comprehensive review of the YCJA commencing in 2008.

Strategy 1.7 – Provincial Offences Procedure Act

Assist with the review of the *Provincial Offences Procedure Act*.

- The MLA-led Steering Committee submitted its report in April 2007. It contains 22 recommendations for improving provincial and bylaw offence handling in Alberta.
- Alberta Justice supports all of the recommendations contained in the Steering Committee's report. The majority of the recommendations can be carried out through legislation by the Department without involving other ministries, but three key recommendations require cooperation with Solicitor General and Public Security, Transportation, Municipal Affairs, and Service Alberta.

Strategy 1.8 – Alberta Victims of Crime Consultation

Participate with Solicitor General and Public Security and other stakeholders in the implementation of the government-accepted recommendations of the MLA Report of the Alberta Victims of Crime Consultation that relate specifically to Justice.

- In conjunction with Solicitor General and Public Security, Alberta Justice staff participated in developing and distributing Referral Forms to facilitate information flow between Victim Services Units and Crown Offices. Alberta Justice staff also participated in the process commenced by Solicitor General and Public Security to evaluate the impact of the Victims of Crime Protocol.
- Under Solicitor General and Public Security's lead, Victim Services Awareness Campaigns were unveiled throughout the province to promote the Victims of Crime Protocol and other victims programs.

Performance Measure 1.a: Public Perception of Safety in the Home

Performance Summary

The majority of Albertans feel "very safe" or "reasonably safe" in their own home after dark. Those feeling "somewhat less safe," however, included respondents 18 to 24 years old, those with an annual income of less than $30,000, those with less than high school education, and victims of crime.

Performance Measure

Public perception of safety in the home

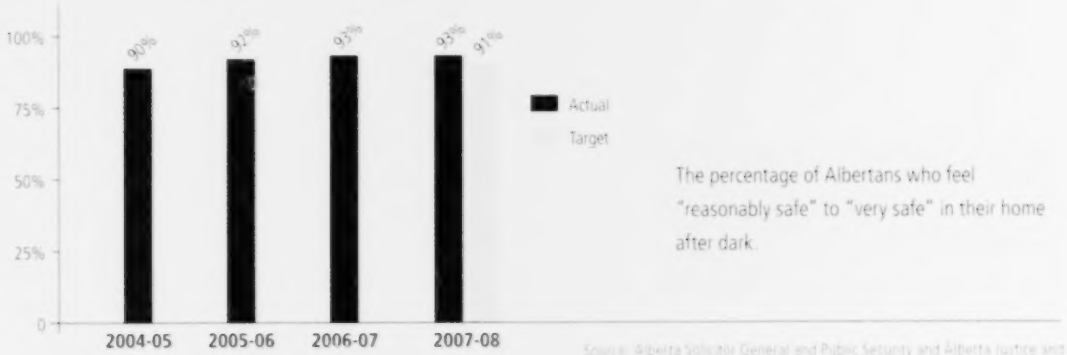
The results of the *Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security and Alberta Justice and Attorney General 2008 Survey of Albertans* indicated that 93 per cent of Albertans said that they feel "very safe" (56 per cent) or "reasonably safe" (37 per cent) in their own home after dark. This is unchanged from 2006-07 and exceeded this year's target of 91 per cent.

Discussion and Analysis

This measure examines Albertan's perception of safety in their communities. Public perception has an impact on the development of social policy. Governments, academics, political groups, and journalists often measure public attitudes toward the criminal justice system, crime and offenders in an attempt to discover how members of the public perceive crime and various justice issues.

Some of the factors that may influence peoples attitudes include their gender, age, level of education, satisfaction with personal safety, victimization experience, and the experiences of friends and family. Heightened media exposure of high profile criminal cases, as well as focused media coverage on the safe communities initiative, may have also potentially influenced the result for this measure.

Public Perception of Safety in the Home



The percentage of Albertans who feel "reasonably safe" to "very safe" in their home after dark.

Source: Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security and Alberta Justice and Attorney General 2008 Survey of Albertans, Research Innovations

For methodology related to this measure see page 47.

Performance Measure 1.b: Public Perception of Safety in the Neighbourhood

Performance Summary

Most Albertans felt safe walking alone at night in their neighbourhood. Higher perceived safety levels were identified among residents in Royal Canadian Mounted Police service areas, residents in rural areas in southern Alberta, residents in smaller cities and rural areas in northern Alberta, men, and respondents in households with an annual income of $100,000 or more.

Performance Measure

Public perception of safety in the neighbourhood

The results of the *Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security and Alberta Justice and Attorney General 2008 Survey of Albertans* indicated that 75 per cent of Albertans felt safe walking alone in their area after dark. This is unchanged from last year's result but short of this year's target of 82 per cent.

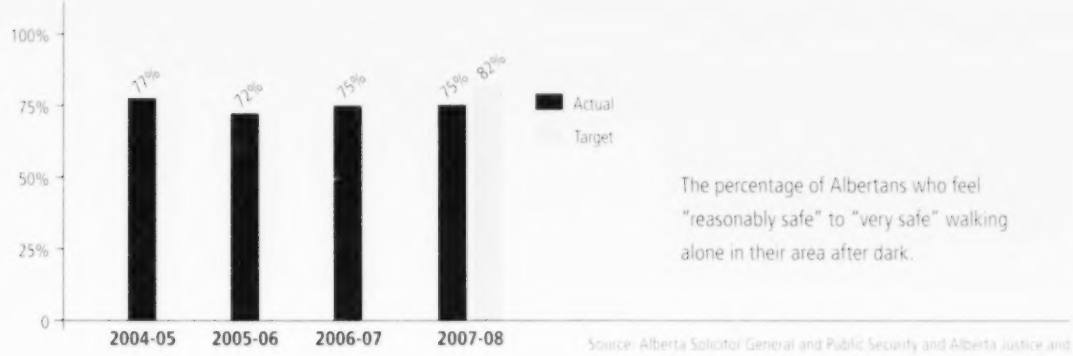
Discussion and Analysis

Similar to safety in the home, safety in the neighbourhood measures the public's perception of safety in their communities.

In 2007-08, the majority of Albertans (75 per cent) felt safe walking alone in their area after dark. Survey respondents were asked several additional questions regarding perceptions of safety in their neighbourhood. Results of those questions displayed no significant changes from last year. Fifty-six per cent believed that crime is not a serious problem in their neighbourhood and 57 per cent believed that there was less crime in their neighbourhood than in other areas of the province.

Perceptions of crime in the community are shaped by a number of factors including citizens' previous victimization experience, the experiences of friends and family and media reports of crime. Heightened media exposure of high profile criminal cases, as well as focused media coverage on the safe communities initiative, may have potentially influenced the result for this measure.

Public Perception of Safety in the Neighbourhood



The percentage of Albertans who feel "reasonably safe" to "very safe" walking alone in their area after dark.

Source: Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security and Alberta Justice and Attorney General 2008 Survey of Albertans, Research Innovations

For methodology related to this measure see page 47.

Core Business Two: Courts

***Goal Two** – Promote a Fair and Accessible Civil and Criminal Justice System*

Alberta Justice is responsible for helping to resolve criminal and civil disputes through reasonable access to court resources and dispute resolution opportunities. This includes alternatives to traditional court processes such as mediation, judicial dispute resolution, and mini-trials. By speeding up the process and lowering costs, these alternatives can improve access to the justice system.

The following section highlights the Ministry's accomplishments related to the strategies identified under Goal Two in the 2007-10 Alberta Justice Business Plan.

Strategy 2.1 – Video Conferencing

Improve access to the court system through the use of technology such as video conferencing.

- A draft Video Conferencing Needs Assessment charter evaluation document was completed. At the end of March 2008, the evaluation was in its final stages.
- Tender documents were completed and a contract was awarded to complete renovations for video conferencing in the Grande Prairie Young Offender Centre, Calgary Remand Centre, Peace River Correctional Centre, Red Deer Remand Centre, Medicine Hat Remand Centre, and Lethbridge Remand Centre. The renovations are scheduled for completion in 2008 and 2009.
- Wireless Internet access was made available in the Edmonton Law Courts and in the Calgary Court of Appeal in September 2007.
- A re-designed Alberta Courts website was launched on September 15, 2007.

Strategy 2.2 – Justice Information Management System

Develop an implementation plan to move forward with the Justice Information Management System initiative. The plan will be based on the previous year's documented business requirements, go-forward strategy and business case.

- Fujitsu Consulting was contracted to lead business process improvement activities.
- A Communication and Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Work Plan, Governance Model and Project Charter were developed.
- A team from Alberta Justice attended the biannual Court Technology Conference in October 2007 to commence market research and learn from other jurisdictions' experiences.
- The Justice Information Management System Governance Committee approved two quick-win proposals. The first, the Business Intelligence Component quick win project, involved automating a component of the current "Court Services and Criminal Justice Executive Report," making use of existing Justice Online Information Network (JOIN) data. The second, the Administrative Information Management (AIM) project, is underway.

Strategy 2.3 – Family Justice

Integrate and streamline delivery of all aspects of Family Justice.

- A business case was prepared to hire a project lead to research, develop, and implement strategies to comply with the Canadian Research Institute for Law and the Family (CRILF) recommendations and the goals of the Family Justice System (FJS). A committee has been formed to assist in this work.

- FJS has continued to improve services by expanding the number of CRILF to six centres across the province, increasing the types of parent educations seminars held to assist families dealing with separation and divorce, expanding the number of Family Court Counselors, assisting parties with Child Support Applications, and expanding the rosters for the Dispute Resolutions Officer and Child Support Resolution offices in Edmonton and Calgary.
- A draft of the Project Charter for collection of FJS client information and statistics was prepared.
- Calgary registries co-located in the Calgary Court Centre with FJS, which has improved public access to services. Edmonton registries are expected to be co-located in 2008.
- CRILF was selected to partner with Alberta. A Memorandum of Understanding was developed and signed to allow sharing of aggregate data with CRILF for the purposes of the *Family Law Act* evaluation.

Strategy 2.4 - Appropriate Dispute Resolution

Initiate, coordinate and evaluate mediation and other appropriate dispute resolution processes.

- The external evaluation of the Queen's Bench civil mediation program was completed and the Liaison Committee granted approval to create a working group to prioritize and to move forward on evaluation recommendations.
- An executive summary of the external evaluation report was sent to the Law Society Benchers, the Queen's Bench mediator roster, and posted on the program's website.

Strategy 2.5 - Improve Access to the Justice System

Work with Infrastructure and Transportation and the judiciary to ease court crowding, modernize buildings and improve access to the justice system.

- Construction of space for the Sheriff's office and Aboriginal Court Worker project commenced in April 2007 and was completed in June 2007.
- A Space Requirements Document was developed and approved for a new Jasper court facility. The design of the Jasper court facility was drafted.
- The Law Information Centre kiosk in Grande Prairie was completed on June 11, 2007.
- Updated Request for Accommodation templates were completed for Cochrane and Didsbury with Hinton identified as another priority.

Strategy 2.6 - Calgary Courts Centre

Improve and streamline access to justice in Calgary by increasing the number of court sittings and enhancing support functions in the new Calgary Courts Centre.

- All court operations and related services were located in the Calgary Courts Centre, which opened to the public in September 2007. A variety of training and orientation sessions were held, including use of digital display signage, courtroom technology, and facility security training. Tours were available for all staff and court users to provide orientation to the building and location of services.
- A variety of communication strategies were implemented to ease the transition to the new complex and current practices were reviewed and revised where possible to improve efficiencies.

Strategy 2.7 - Provincial Security Program

Work with Solicitor General and Public Security to enhance the integration and effectiveness of the Provincial Security Program, including perimeter security and enhanced security for all courts.

- The operation of perimeter security commenced in Vermilion on December 3, 2007. Red Deer and Drumheller renovations were completed.

Strategy 2.8 - Electronic Ticket Processing

Develop a strategy to address increasing traffic ticket and bylaw volumes and ensure effective processing of these matters in the courts. This strategy includes electronic ticket processing.

- Alberta courts successfully processed 262,553 electronic tickets as of March 31, 2008.
- Electronic ticketing was implemented in the following locations in 2007-08: Camrose, Sherwood Park, Fort McMurray, Red Deer, Devon, Stony Plain, Spruce Grove, Hinton, Edson, Canmore and Chestermere. Work was also started to implement electronic ticketing in St. Albert, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Leduc, Wetaskiwin, Beaumont, Fort Saskatchewan and Grande Prairie. St. Albert was scheduled to implement electronic ticketing in April or May 2008 and all remaining Provincial Court locations in 2008-09.
- An implementation plan was developed with the Calgary Parking Authority to file parking tickets electronically.

Strategy 2.9 - Rewrite the Rules of Court

Rewrite the Rules of Court to simplify and update them by working in partnership with the Alberta Law Reform Institute, the Rules of Court Committee and other stakeholders as appropriate.

- The Rules of Court Committee continued to dialogue with the Alberta Law Reform Institute to address issues arising from the proposed new rules.
- An updated Department Project Team Plan was developed. The Department Project Team met and provided comments on Test Draft 3 of the Rules of Court.
- Counsel that was hired to assist the Rules of Court Committee continued to provide advice and assistance.

Strategy 2.10 - Family Law Procedure Improvement

Facilitate a review of the Rules of Court and Practice Notes affecting family law to accommodate changes needed as a result of the Rules of Court Rewrite and to improve family law procedure.

- The Family Law Rules Project Committee, which is comprised of representatives from the Ministry, the courts, Law Society and Canadian Bar Association, met regularly (approximately twice a month).
- Presentations were made to the Canadian Bar Association Family Sections in Edmonton and Calgary in September and October 2007 to solicit comments on issues raised by the review of the rules.
- The Family Law Rules Project Committee began reviewing Test Draft 3 and the existing Rules on family practice (divorce rules and *Family Law Act* rules) and the Queen's Bench Family Practice Notes. Their review was targeted to be completed by May 30, 2008.

- The Committee began drafting a "summary recommendations document" outlining the changes needs to the proposed new Rules to accommodate family law practice and what needed to be changed/retained in the existing new family Rules. Input received from consultations with the Canadian Bar Association Family Sections in Edmonton and Calgary was incorporated into the document.

Strategy 2.11 - Law Information Centres

Implement additional self-represented litigants' self-help centres and begin to evaluate those already in place.

- Law Information Centres (LInC) opened in Edmonton and Red Deer on April 2, 2007. The LInC in Grande Prairie opened on June 11, 2007.
- Red Deer staff continued to provide outreach services at the Rimbey, Ponoka, and Stettler courthouses on a monthly basis to assist self-represented litigants and unrepresented accused. The Rocky Mountain House courthouses were visited semi-monthly and Edmonton staff visited Wetaskiwin weekly.
- From April 2, 2007 to March 31, 2008, LInC staff referred 370 clients to Alberta Law Line. In total, approximately 3,260 clients were referred to appropriate agencies.

Strategy 2.12 - Public Consultation Process

Design and implement a focused public consultation process with the goal of determining what is meant by Access to Justice and how it can be improved.

- The Canadian Forum on Civil Justice brought the Legal Services Mapping Project to the Justice Policy Advisory Committee for consultation on potential roles for Alberta Justice. This multi-year project will provide a province-wide "map" of all legal services that are provided to Albertans in the areas of civil, criminal, family and administrative justice. Alberta Justice is represented on the Research Directors' team, which oversees the project. The Canadian Forum on Civil Justice agreed to prioritize the research necessary to implement a Calgary LInC for access to justice in that city.

Strategy 2.13 - Alberta Succession Statutes

Review and prepare proposals to consolidate Alberta Succession statutes (laws dealing with the disposition of property upon death).

- A steering committee was formed to lead this initiative. A network of stakeholders and experts was established.
- Extensive legal research was undertaken including a review of statutes, cases, law reform reports and commentators. Staff attended a number of Canadian Bar Association seminars, Legal Education Society of Alberta seminars and other seminars.
- Issues and options papers were completed in dependency, intestate succession, debt marshalling, wills/marriage, and future income plans.
- Social and policy research was completed including research of Aboriginal issues and further material on health and economic trends.

Performance Measure 2.a: Median Elapsed Time from First to Last Appearance

Performance Summary

The most current data available for this measure is for 2006-07. In 2006-07, Alberta's median elapsed time from first to last appearance in Provincial Court was 109 days.

Performance Measure

Median elapsed time from first to last appearance

In 2006-07, the median elapsed time from first to last appearance was 109 days for Provincial Court. This is unchanged from the previous year's result. The Ministry met its target, which was to be below the Canadian median of 122 days.

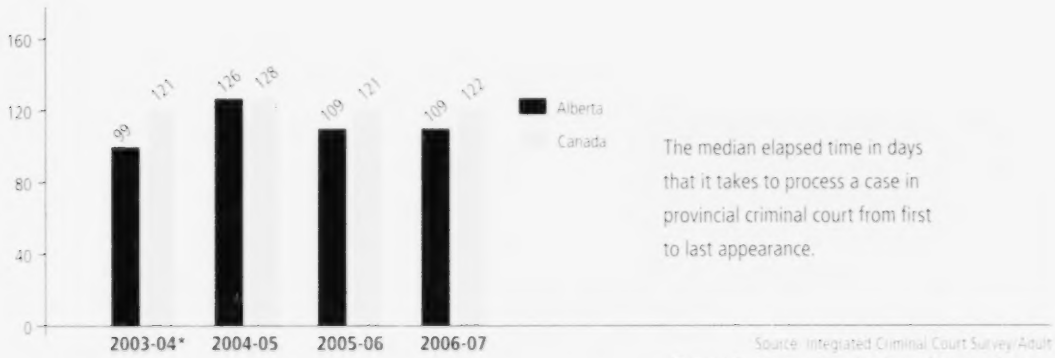
Discussion and Analysis

The Ministry must ensure that Albertans are provided with access to the courts in a reasonable amount of time. Median elapsed time from first to last appearance represents the midpoint in the time elapsed between the first and last appearance for all cases processed in Provincial Court.

In 2006-07, there were 51,144 disposed cases, which was an increase of 1.2 per cent from the 50,527 disposed cases in 2005-06.

While median elapsed time has been a long-standing performance measure in the Alberta Justice Business Plan, this year the method in which jurisdictional data was collected by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS) changed. As a result of this new data collection and consequential case definition changes, historical results reported in this annual report are different from results reported in previous annual reports.

Median Elapsed Time from First to Last Appearance



The median elapsed time in days that it takes to process a case in provincial criminal court from first to last appearance.

Source: Integrated Criminal Court Survey/Adult Criminal Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics

*2003-04 result was restated in 2007-08 due to a methodology change.

For methodology related to this measure see page 47.

Performance Measure 2.b: Provincial Court Civil Mediation Settlement Rate

Performance Summary

In 2007-08 the civil mediation settlement rate was 65 per cent.

Performance Measure

Provincial Court civil mediation settlement rate

In 2007-08, Alberta's Provincial Court civil mediation settlement rate was 65 per cent. This represents an increase from the 63 per cent achieved in 2006-07 and exceeded the target of 63 per cent.

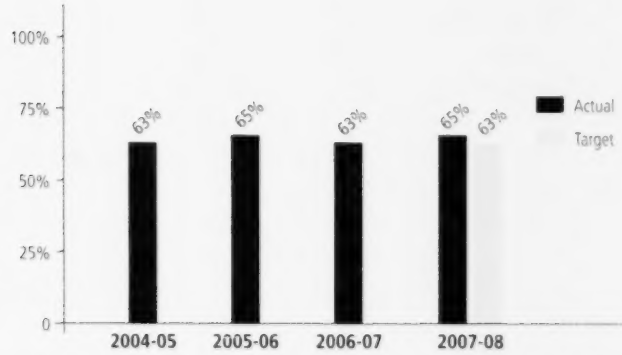
Discussion and Analysis

The Provincial Court civil mediation settlement rate reflects the success of the mediation program. The program aims to increase the number of civil cases resolved through mediation and reduce the number of civil cases that proceed to court. The settlement rate is the number of civil actions settled through mediation in the Civil Claims Program divided by the total number of civil claims settled or not settled through such mediation.

In 2007-08, Calgary's Provincial Court civil mediation settlement rate was 60 per cent, Edmonton's rate was 68 per cent, Grande Prairie's rate was 58 per cent, Lethbridge's rate was 68 per cent, Medicine Hat's rate was 70 per cent and Red Deer's rate was 68 per cent.

In some cases, lawyers are opposed to mediation or parties are not willing to negotiate in good faith. Both of these factors can hinder successful mediated settlements.

Provincial Court Civil Mediation Settlement Rate



The mediation settlement rate is the number of civil actions settled through mediation in the Civil Claims Program divided by the total number of civil claims settled or not settled through such mediation. This is a blended settlement rate of Calgary, Edmonton, Grande Prairie, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, and Red Deer. (Note: Grande Prairie and Red Deer programs were instituted in 2007. Results of these programs were not included in previous years' data.)

Source: Administrative Data, Court Services Division

For methodology related to this measure see page 48.

Core Business Three: Justice Services to Albertans

Goal Three – Provide Access to Justice Services for Albertans in Need

Through its programs and services, the Ministry provides support and protection to vulnerable citizens, including families who depend on court-ordered maintenance payments, individuals unable to protect their financial interests, and individuals who cannot afford legal counsel. Helping those in need is essential to Alberta's success.

The following section highlights the Ministry's accomplishments related to the strategies identified under Goal Three in the 2007-10 Alberta Justice Business Plan.

Strategy 3.1 – Dependent Adults Act

Work with Seniors and Community Supports to develop and implement a revised *Dependent Adults Act*.

- Cabinet Policy Committee approved the revised template for a New Bill document.
- Drafting instructions were provided to Legislative Counsel.

Strategy 3.2 – Funding for Legal Aid

Increase funding for legal aid, to maintain and improve access to justice for Albertans in need.

- In 2007-08, Alberta Justice provided Legal Aid Alberta (LAA) with a grant of $45,346,000, which was $2,150,000 more than the previous year's grant.
- LAA used the grant to address its operating issues. For example, LAA expanded its financial eligibility guidelines by ten per cent so more Albertans are eligible for legal aid assistance. LAA also increased its notional hourly tariff to $82, made some additional changes to streamline and consolidate the tariff for online billing purposes, and increased its staff salary budget.

Strategy 3.3 – Recalculation of Child Support

Respond to the increased workload caused by the Supreme Court decision on recalculation of child support.

- A written report on options for administrative recalculation of child support was completed.
- A *Minister's Report* was prepared and approval to proceed was provided by Agenda and Priorities and Cabinet Policy Committee. Drafting instructions for the required changes to the *Family Law Act* were submitted and drafting was completed.

Strategy 3.4 – Family Justice Strategy

Work to better address difficulties in exercising parenting time (access enforcement) in conjunction with the Family Justice Strategy.

- The existing written report on options for addressing child access denial was updated in May 2007.

Strategy 3.5 – Regularity of Maintenance Payments

Complete and initiate a work plan to increase the regularity of maintenance payments.

- A work plan was completed and included in the 2007-10 divisional operational plan.
- A performance measure for regularity of payment was developed for inclusion in the 2008-11 Alberta Justice Business Plan.
- A manager and seven staff were hired for the southern Alberta Maintenance Enforcement Program (MEP) office.
- Opportunities were identified to further streamline placement and removal of enforcement actions and searches through other government departments.

Strategy 3.6 – Maintenance Enforcement Communication Plan

Develop a plan to increase clients' and the general public's understanding of the Maintenance Enforcement Program's roles and responsibilities.

- A draft report analyzing client survey comments was developed.
- A plan to increase client understanding of program roles and responsibilities by reviewing and revising MEP written materials for clients was completed.

Strategy 3.7 – Reciprocal Enforcement

Work with federal, provincial and territorial partners in the development of processes that will enhance reciprocal enforcement of criminal and traffic fines.

- Ministry staff met with representatives from the Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators in May and September 2007 to discuss and refine inter-provincial cooperation options and logistics. Further meetings were held with the Ministry of Transportation in the fall and winter of 2007-08 to clarify how the data exchange agreement between provinces worked.
- A concept document was drafted, focusing on a central information technology clearinghouse model for registering debts, processing payments and distributing funds.

Strategy 3.8 – Bail Forfeiture Collections

Implement an initiative that will increase the effectiveness of bail forfeiture collections.

- Strategies for bail forfeiture collection, as well as process and procedural changes required for successful implementation, were determined.
- Research was completed and the logistics were put into place to begin active collections. New employees were recruited and trained on bail collection techniques.
- Active collection began in the fall of 2007 as a pilot with Edmonton Courts. Full implementation across the province will commence in the summer of 2008.
- The Ministry worked to create an informative website explaining the objectives of the Fines Enforcement Program (including bail forfeiture collection), the tools it uses to enforce collection, and the payment options available to debtors. Website content was completed, circulated and approved by stakeholders, and submitted to the Chief Information Officer for Internet formatting. The website is expected to be online in mid-2008.

Performance Measure 3.a: Client Satisfaction with the Services of the Public Trustee's Office

Performance Summary

The majority of clients were "satisfied" with the services provided by the Office of the Public Trustee.

Performance Measure

Satisfaction with services of the Office of the Public Trustee

In 2007-08, the satisfaction rate of those clients responding to the survey was 90 per cent. This represents a minimal two-percentage-point decrease from the result achieved last year. It exceeded this year's target of 87 per cent.

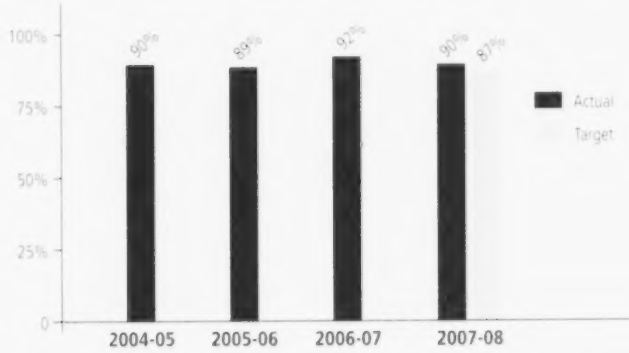
Discussion and Analysis

The Office of the Public Trustee provides estate and trust administration services to disadvantaged Albertans. This measure is used to monitor how well the Public Trustee provides its services and to indicate access to justice services for persons in need.

The measure is calculated as a composite of responses to various questions relating to satisfaction with responsiveness and quality of services provided. It is used to improve services to clients and to establish policies and procedures where deficiencies are noted.

More information on the activities of the Public Trustee is available in the program's annual report, which can be obtained from the Public Trustee. Contact information for the Public Trustee can be found on the Alberta Justice website at www.justice.gov.ab.ca/public_trustee/contact.aspx.

Client Satisfaction with the Services of the Public Trustee's Office



The percentage of clients "satisfied" to "very satisfied" with the services of the Public Trustee's Office.

Source: Client Satisfaction Survey, Public Trustee's Office

For methodology related to this measure see page 48.

Performance Measure 3.b: Maintenance Enforcement Program: Dollars Due Compared to Dollars Received (Per Cent Collected)

Performance Summary

The Maintenance Enforcement Program (MEP) achieved a 100 per cent collection rate on scheduled support and scheduled arrears payments.

Performance Measure

Maintenance Enforcement Program: Dollars due compared to dollars received (per cent collected)

In 2007-08, MEP achieved a 100 per cent collection rate. This represents an increase from the 94 per cent collection rate achieved in 2006-07 and exceeded this year's target of 87 per cent.

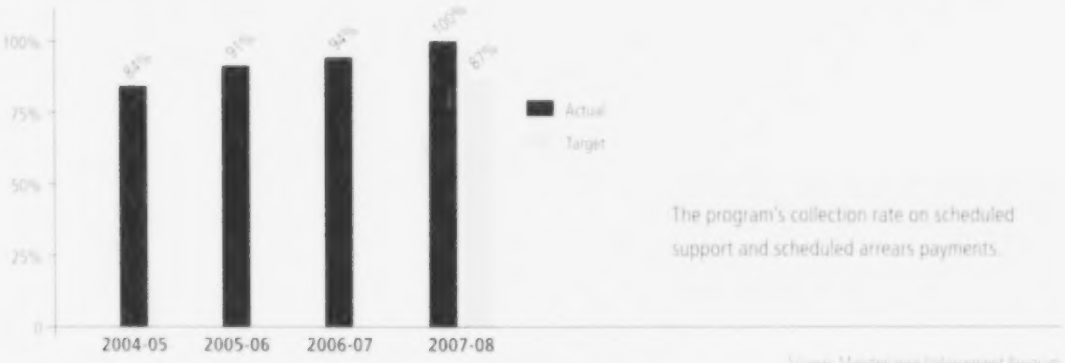
Discussion and Analysis

MEP collects support payments pursuant to court orders and agreements. The program places emphasis on client service, administrative fairness and staff training to assist with voluntary compliance, and, when needed, negotiates settlements of delinquent accounts. The program also has a number of legislative tools and clear guidelines regarding their use, which are employed effectively to enforce maintenance orders and to assist in achieving compliance.

During the 2007-08 fiscal year, MEP implemented a number of strategies to improve the regularity of payments. These included focusing staff efforts on contacting debtors to make payment arrangements by establishing an outbound calling unit to contact debtors and creditors outside of normal business hours, contacting debtors by telephone promptly upon registration of the file wherever possible to establish a relationship, and dedicating staff resources specifically to promptly locate debtors. As a result of these efforts, combined with an increase in staffing and the robust provincial economy, MEP was able to substantially exceed its target.

Factors outside MEP's control influence the program's success at collections. These include inaccessibility of the debtor and/or the debtor's resources, court ordered stays of enforcement, and termination of the debtor's income due to unemployment, disability, or incarceration. The program is limited on its collection efforts by the terms of court orders and agreements.

Maintenance Enforcement Program: Dollars Due Compared to Dollars Received (Per Cent Collected)



The program's collection rate on scheduled support and scheduled arrears payments.

Source: Maintenance Enforcement Program

For methodology related to this measure see page 48.

Performance Measure 3.c: Client Satisfaction with Legal Aid Services

Performance Summary

The majority of applicants indicated that they were "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with the services they received from Legal Aid Alberta (LAA).

Performance Measure

Client satisfaction with Legal Aid Services

In 2007-08, 76 per cent of respondents were either "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with the services they received from LAA. This represents a minimal one-percentage-point decrease from last year and fell short of the target by four percentage points.

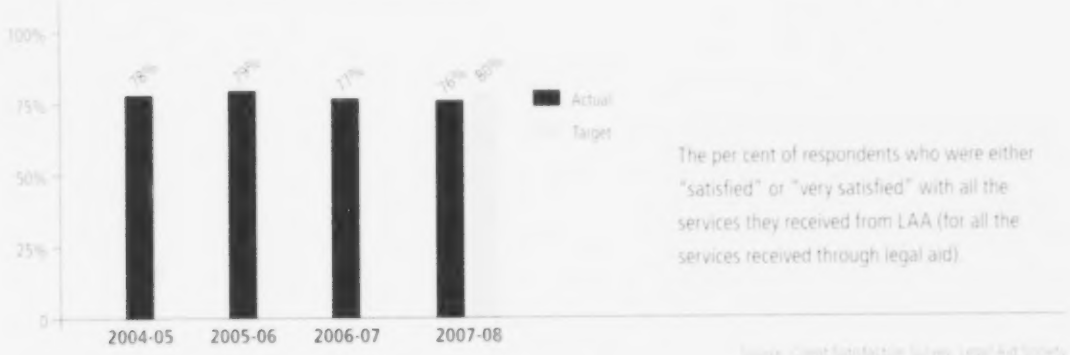
Discussion and Analysis

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of satisfaction with all of the services received through legal aid, including the application and billing process and the legal services provided by their lawyer. Of the 76 per cent of respondents who indicated satisfaction with the level of service, 32 per cent were "very satisfied".

In addition to being asked about their overall satisfaction with legal aid services, respondents were also asked about their satisfaction with the service they received from their legal aid lawyer. Seventy-seven per cent were "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the service they received from their legal aid lawyer.

Respondents were also asked about their overall level of satisfaction with the service they received from LAA when applying for legal aid. Eighty per cent of respondents were either "satisfied" or "very satisfied," with 34 per cent indicating that they were "very satisfied" with the level of service. Recipients of legal aid expressed a higher level of satisfaction (87 per cent) compared to non-recipients who applied (47 per cent).

Client Satisfaction with Legal Aid Services



The per cent of respondents who were either "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with all the services they received from LAA (for all the services received through legal aid).

Source: Client Satisfaction Survey, Legal Aid Society

For methodology related to this measure see page 48.

Goal Four *– Improve Understanding of and Confidence in the Justice system*

Albertans recognize that information and education about the justice system is important. Perceptions of crime in their communities and the province, along with the information they receive from the media, affect their understanding of and confidence in the justice system. The Ministry will continue to work with partners to find better ways of informing Albertans about the justice system, including the development of new strategies and working with Education and other stakeholders to develop justice education resources for Alberta classrooms.

The following section highlights the Ministry's accomplishments related to the strategies identified under Goal Four in the 2007-10 Alberta Justice Business Plan.

Strategy 4.1 – Stakeholder Consultation

Consult with stakeholders on programs, policies, and services in areas of provincial responsibility for the administration of justice.

- The Ministry's biggest stakeholder platform is the Justice Policy Advisory Committee (JPAC) and its relevant committees such as the JPAC Steering Committee and the five JPAC Working Groups (Media, Leaders, Research, Volunteers, and Law-related Education). JPAC is co-chaired by the ministries of Justice and Attorney General and Solicitor General and Public Security. Its membership is comprised of 28 stakeholder organizations. In 2007-08, Ministry staff assisted the JPAC Media and Leaders Working Groups to develop recommendations with a specific focus on increasing public understanding of the justice system.
- Through a unique partnership between Alberta Justice and the Alberta Branch of the Canadian Bar Association, teachers and community organizations can invite justice professionals such as lawyers, Crown prosecutors, and judges to speak with their students or at a community event through the Justice Education Speakers Centre. In 2007-08, speakers continued to be provided as requested through the Speaker's Centre and continued to receive positive feedback.

Strategy 4.2 – Justice Policy Advisory Committee

Initiate and maintain partnerships with stakeholders through the Justice Policy Advisory Committee to identify information gaps and to determine potential research opportunities and effective justice education strategies.

- Two new JPAC working groups, Media and Leaders, held their inaugural meetings. Current working groups (Law Related Education, Research, and Volunteers) continued to make progress in developing recommendations for JPAC consideration.
- Action was taken to improve access to electronic court data for rural coordinators of the Alberta Police-Based Victim Services Associations and the clients they serve.

Strategy 4.3 - Justice Education Resources

Work with Education and other stakeholders to develop justice education resources for Alberta classrooms.

- The Ministry continued to work with Alberta Education to develop resource materials for grade six and nine social studies 2008-09 curriculums. Materials will be launched in the next school year along with the revised curriculum.
- Consultations were held with Alberta Education to determine a process for reviewing and evaluating the grade three online resource, *Alberta's Justice System in Your Community*. An evaluation questionnaire will be developed for the resource and provided to teachers in the upcoming year.

Strategy 4.4 - Lobbyist Registry

Establish a framework for a lobbyist registry, prohibit lobbyists from giving paid advice to government at the same time as they are lobbying the same subject matter and establish a framework to release information about payments under government contracts on a regular basis.

- The Ministry provided technical and advisory support to the Standing Committee on Government Services, which studied the *Lobbyists Act* that received Royal Assent on December 7, 2007. Alberta Justice worked with other ministries to provide education about the bill and to solicit input on the impact of the bill's amendments on stakeholders.

Performance Measure 4.a: Public Knowledge of the Justice System

Performance Summary

The majority of Albertans (65 per cent) feel "knowledgeable" about the justice system in Alberta. The following subgroups of Albertans felt "less knowledgeable" than others: respondents of rural areas in northern and southern Alberta, those living in households with an annual income of less than $30,000, and those with less than high school education.

Performance Measure

Public knowledge of the justice system

The results of the *Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security and Alberta Justice and Attorney General 2008 Survey of Albertans* indicated that 65 per cent[1] of Albertans said that they felt "knowledgeable" about the justice system in Alberta. Ten per cent felt "very knowledgeable" and 54 per cent felt "somewhat knowledgeable." This represents a minimal one-percentage-point decrease from last year. This year's target was 65 per cent.

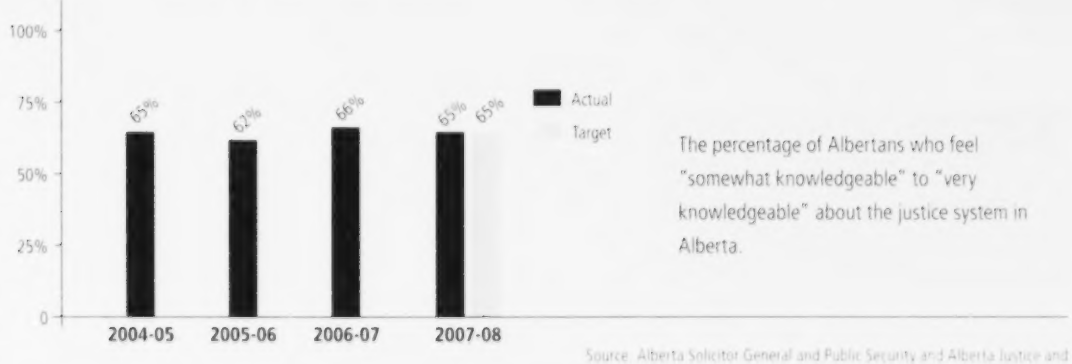
Discussion and Analysis

If Albertans are to have the ability to access the justice system and the services it provides, they must have some knowledge about the system. The results of the public opinion survey assist the Ministry in determining the extent that Albertans feel knowledgeable about the justice system.

Most people do not learn about the justice system through direct experience. Public knowledge of the justice system is gained mostly from television, radio and newspapers. The information provided by these sources tends to be either incomplete or dramatic, which contributes to public misconceptions about the justice system.

Respondents were also asked to what extent they "agreed" or "disagreed" that they had a good understanding of the justice system in Alberta. Seventy per cent of respondents agreed that they had a good understanding of the justice system in Alberta, including 11 per cent who "strongly agreed" and 59 per cent who "somewhat agreed."

Public Knowledge of the Justice System



The percentage of Albertans who feel "somewhat knowledgeable" to "very knowledgeable" about the justice system in Alberta.

Source: Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security and Alberta Justice and Attorney General 2008 Survey of Albertans, Research Innovations

For methodology related to this measure see page 49.

[1] This is the actual percentage who mentioned either category. When adding together the percentages for two related categories, the total may differ by one per cent from the actual percentage who mentioned either category.

Performance Measure 4.b: Public Confidence in the Justice System

Performance Summary

The majority of Albertans have "confidence" in the justice system. Respondents with university education had the highest confidence while lower confidence was reported by residents of smaller cities in southern Alberta and rural areas in northern Alberta, those with less than high school education, and victims of crime.

Performance Measure

Public confidence in the justice system

The results of the *Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security and Alberta Justice and Attorney General 2008 Survey of Albertans* indicated that 67 per cent of Albertans said that they had "confidence" in the justice system in Alberta. Thirteen per cent had "a lot of confidence" and 54 per cent had "some confidence" in the justice system. This is down from 73 per cent in 2006-07. The Ministry missed this year's target of 80 per cent.

Discussion and Analysis

Public confidence has been at the forefront of the justice system in Alberta, across Canada and in other countries as a key issue, which affects not only the justice departments but the greater justice system.

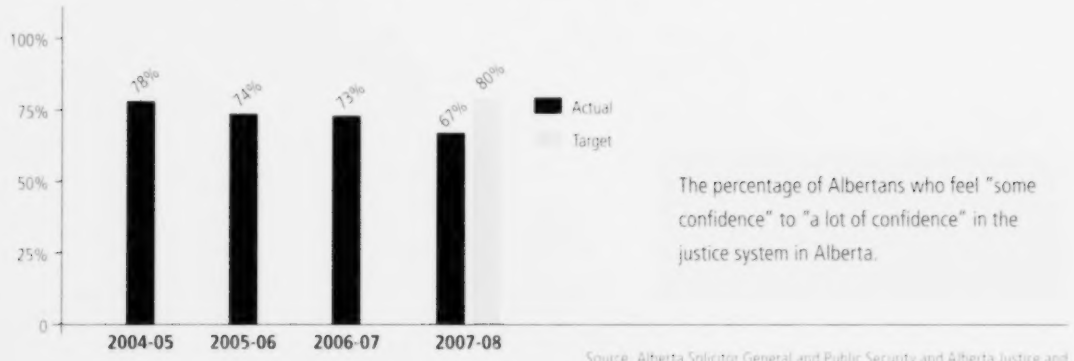
Public confidence in the justice system is a complex issue. It is often related to a variety of factors including the respondent's gender, age, level of education, previous contact with the criminal justice system, history of victimization, and perception of personal safety. People who are more fearful of crime tend to have less confidence in the justice system as a whole.

Public confidence in the justice system is highly influenced by perspectives communicated by the media. Heightened media exposure of high profile criminal cases and the focus on safer communities may have contributed to the decrease in public confidence. Literature suggests that the media help shape the attitudes and perceptions of the public and that there are many people who consider newspapers, television, and other media their main source of information about crime, offenders, and the criminal justice system.

This year's survey indicates that the subgroup with the largest decrease in confidence were respondents with less than high school education. Literature indicates that the influence of mass media seems to be greater where education levels are low.

The downward trend in public confidence in Alberta's justice system in recent years is shared at the national level. Results of the national *Public Confidence in the Justice System Survey*, conducted by Justice Canada in 2007, showed that the public expressed low levels of confidence in the criminal justice system (37 per cent) and the family justice system (42 per cent).

Public Confidence in the Justice System



The percentage of Albertans who feel "some confidence" to "a lot of confidence" in the justice system in Alberta.

Source: Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security and Alberta Justice and Attorney General 2008 Survey of Albertans, Research Innovations

For methodology related to this measure see page 49.

Core Business Four: Legal and Strategic Services to Government

***Goal Five** – Assist Government Ministries to Achieve Their Objectives Through the Provision of Effective Legal and Related Strategic Services*

The government performs a number of roles as service provider, community partner, and lawmaker. These roles involve relationships with individuals, families, communities, and other governments. Effective legal services reduce the potential for conflict involving the government, as well as protecting and advancing the interests of the government. By providing effective legal and related strategic services, the Ministry can assist other ministries in achieving their corporate goals and strategic priorities.

The following section highlights the Ministry's accomplishments related to the strategies identified under Goal Five in the 2007-10 Alberta Justice Business Plan.

Strategy 5.1 – Enhance Legal Services

Enhance alignment of legal service resources with government ministries by continuing to modify legal service protocol agreements to meet the ongoing needs of client ministries and Justice.

- Ministry staff met with client contacts to determine their legal service requirements for the year and to assist with legal service protocol agreements to ensure they met departmental needs.

Strategy 5.2 – Enhance Service Excellence

Enhance service excellence to client ministries by:

- Meeting with client ministries to discuss their corporate counsel needs and how Alberta Justice can enhance their corporate counsel services to meet those needs;
- Enhancing clients' understanding of the role of Alberta Justice in the provision of legal services;
- Continuing to improve legal and support staff capabilities through an emphasis on professional development, including training and education.

- Legal and strategic advice was provided to other ministries on sensitive issues. The Deputy Minister met with the Deputy Ministers of Energy, Sustainable Resource Development, Service Alberta, Employment Immigration and Industry, Finance and Treasury Board to discuss the delivery of legal services to those ministries.

Strategy 5.3 – Aboriginal Self-Government

Provide legal and related strategic advice to the Deputy and Assistant Deputy Minister committees in relation to Aboriginal self-government and the regulatory framework for economic activities on reserves.

- The Ministry worked to advance negotiations between Canada, the Blood Tribe and Alberta. These negotiations deal with the provision of law-making authority to the Blood Tribe to enact legislation relating to children, youth and family, membership, elections and financial management.

- Alberta Justice continues to participate in discussions with Treaty 8 and the Government of Canada to find ways to resolve outstanding issues related to Treaty 8 rights and to implement a right of self-governance consistent with the spirit and intent of the Treaty relationship. Discussions are underway to determine processes for provincial participation, recognizing the need to engage in the assessment and exploratory phases indicated in our parameters approved by Cabinet.
- The Fort McKay First Nation Oil Sands Regulations, which allows for provincial regulation of the project, came into force. The Fort McKay Oil Sands Intergovernmental Agreement was concluded between Canada, Alberta and the First Nation for administration and enforcement of the Regulations by Alberta.

Strategy 5.4 - Legislative Proposal Information Sharing

Maintain a network of Government of Alberta legislative planners to facilitate the sharing of information on principles, processes and best practices in relation to the development of legislative proposals.

- Meetings were held in June and September 2007 and March 2008, and a two-day workshop was held in December 2007 with departmental representatives involved in the legislative process.

Performance Measure 5.a: Client Satisfaction with Legal Services

Performance Summary

The vast majority of client ministries were "satisfied" with the legal services provided by Alberta Justice.

Performance Measure

Client satisfaction with legal services

In 2007-08, 88 per cent of clients surveyed responded that they were "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the legal services provided by Civil Law, Alberta Justice. This represented a minimal two-percentage-point decrease from the result achieved last year. The Ministry missed the target of 89 per cent.

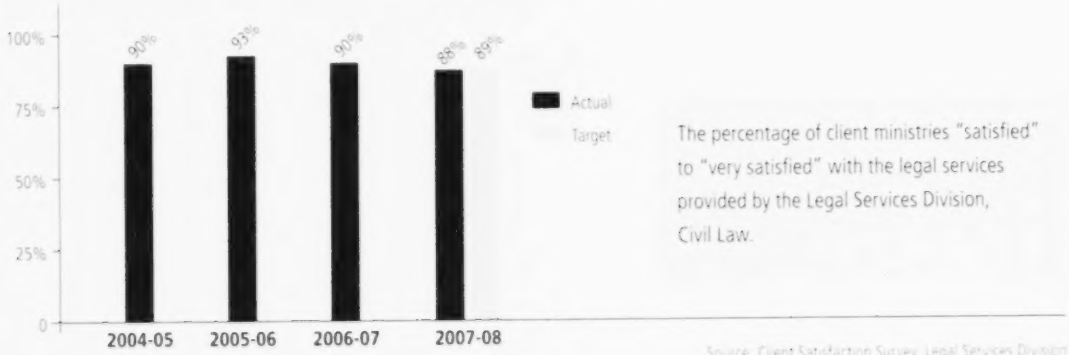
Discussion and Analysis

The results of the survey assist Alberta Justice in assessing success at delivering effective legal services to government.

Eighty-eight per cent of clients surveyed responded that they were either "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the legal services provided. On a more detailed level, client satisfaction ranged between 79 per cent and 95 per cent on various areas ranging from responsiveness, practicality of advice, thoroughness and courtesy.

This year's slight decline in satisfaction may be a result of the increased demand for legal services from client departments. Many clients indicated they were very happy with the quality of the services received, but they scored a lower satisfaction level due to the responsiveness of staff and the timeliness of the services received. Many clients also commented that current workloads of legal staff appeared to be very large and hiring additional staff would help to alleviate their concerns. Civil Law is actively recruiting to those areas where client demands for legal services have increased dramatically, such as Aboriginal Litigation and Public Private Partnerships.

Client Satisfaction with Legal Services



The percentage of client ministries "satisfied" to "very satisfied" with the legal services provided by the Legal Services Division, Civil Law.

Source: Client Satisfaction Survey, Legal Services Division

For methodology related to this measure see page 49.

Performance Measure 5.b: Client Satisfaction with Assistance in Meeting Corporate Goals

Performance Summary

The vast majority of client ministries were "satisfied" that the legal services provided by Alberta Justice helped them achieve their department's corporate goals.

Performance Measure

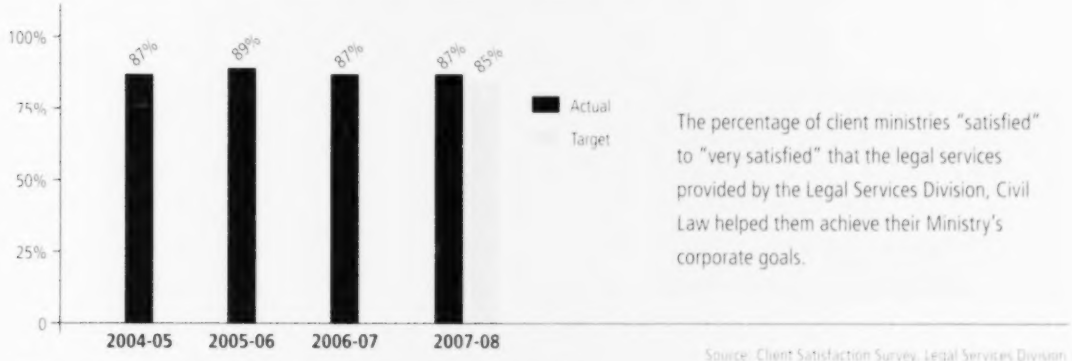
Client satisfaction with assistance in meeting corporate goals

In 2007-08, 87 per cent of clients surveyed responded that they were "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the assistance provided by Alberta Justice Legal Services Division in meeting corporate goals. This is unchanged from the previous year's result and exceeded this year's target of 85 per cent.

Discussion and Analysis

By providing effective legal and related strategic services, Alberta Justice assists other ministries in achieving their objectives. As part of the ongoing process to ensure that the Legal Services Division continues to provide effective and strategic legal services, the Ministry conducts an annual client satisfaction survey. The questionnaire provides clients with the opportunity to rate their level of satisfaction with the legal services they have received.

Client Satisfaction with Assistance in Meeting Corporate Goals



The percentage of client ministries "satisfied" to "very satisfied" that the legal services provided by the Legal Services Division, Civil Law helped them achieve their Ministry's corporate goals.

Source: Client Satisfaction Survey, Legal Services Division

For methodology related to this measure see page 49.

Methodology

Goal One – Promote safe communities in Alberta

Performance Measure 1.a: Public Perception of Safety in the Home

A public opinion telephone survey is conducted on an annual basis. The survey averages ten minutes in length and was last conducted in early 2008. Professionally trained interviewers conduct all interviews from a central telephone facility. The survey is completed on a computer-assisted telephone interviewing system that allows for ongoing tabulation of results. In 2008, the sample size for this survey question was 1,200. To survey a random and representative sample of adult Albertans, quotas were established based on Statistics Canada's 2006 Census data. In each of the six geographic regions of the province, the number of interviews in each age-gender segment was proportionate to their 2006 population estimates. Results are reliable to within ± 2.8 per cent at the 95 per cent confidence level.

Performance Measure 1.b: Public Perception of Safety in the Neighbourhood

As described under ***Performance Measure 1.a**: Public Perception of Safety in the Home.*

Goal Two – Promote a Fair and Accessible Civil and Criminal Justice system

Performance Measure 2.a: Median Elapsed Time from First to Last Appearance

Median elapsed time from first to last appearance represents the mid-point in elapsed time between first and last appearance for all cases processed in Provincial Court.

Performance data for median elapsed time from first to last appearance is obtained from the *Adult Criminal Court Survey* (ACCS), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS). The Ministry provides annual data from the Justice Online Information Network to CCJS' *Integrated Criminal Court Survey* (ICCS), which collects data for both the ACCS and the *Youth Court Survey*, through an automated interface, thus eliminating the need for two interfaces. Prior to October 2007, annual data were provided to CCJS through the ACCS interface directly. At CCJS, the data are edited, verified and signed off by the Ministry. In 2006-07, adult criminal courts in all provinces and territories reported provincial court data to the ICCS/ACCS. In addition, all jurisdictions (with the exception of Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan) reported superior court data to the survey. These jurisdictions represent 98 per cent of the national adult criminal court case load. Some limitations on coverage of the surveys should be noted. Data from the Northwest Territories are not available for 2002-03 or 2003-04. Manitoba began reporting to the survey in 2005-06. Information from Quebec's municipal courts (which account for approximately one-quarter of *Criminal Code* charges in that province) is not yet collected.

The primary unit of analysis is the "person-case". The concept of a case has changed from previous releases to more closely reflect court processing. The new definition combines all charges against the same person having overlapping court dates into a single case. The previous definition combined all charges against the same person disposed of in court on the same day into a case. This tended to undercount the number of charges in a case, overcount the number of cases, and underestimate the length of time required to process a case through court because

not all charges are necessarily disposed of on the same day. As a result, the 2003-04 result is restated in this annual report. The 2004-05 and 2005-06 results were released along with the 2006-07 results for the first time in 2007-08. Therefore, restatement is not necessary.

Performance Measure 2.b: Provincial Court Civil Mediation Settlement Rate

The settlement rate is a percentage of all scheduled cases resolved. It is calculated as the number of civil actions settled through mediation in the civil claims program divided by the total number of civil claims settled or not settled through such mediation. This is a blended rate for Calgary, Edmonton, Grande Prairie, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, and Red Deer. Every month, mediation coordinators count the successful and unsuccessful mediations and enter them in a spreadsheet to arrive at a total number of claims and a settlement rate. The spreadsheets are sent to staff in the Strategic Initiatives Branch (Court Services Division, Alberta Justice), who then enter the successful and unsuccessful mediations into a Microsoft Access database. Successful mediations are those "resolved" or with "resolutions pending" as noted on the Notice of Completion documents. Unsuccessful mediations are those "unresolved". Mediations noted as "termination", "no show" or "reschedule" are not counted as either successful or unsuccessful mediations.

***Goal Three** – Provide Access to Justice Services for Albertans in Need*

Performance Measure 3.a: Client Satisfaction with the Services of the Public Trustee's Office

Client satisfaction with the services of the Office of the Public Trustee is assessed using internally conducted client satisfaction surveys. Survey forms are sent to beneficiaries and minors after completion of administration and following payments of the beneficial interest distribution. Surveys are also sent to business partners, primary contact persons, parents and guardians of minors, and private and public guardians of dependent adults. During 2007-08, 3,044 surveys were sent to beneficiaries of estates, minors on achieving majority, parents and guardians of minors, and business partners. Eight hundred ninety-four surveys were returned, indicating a response rate of 29 per cent. The overall satisfaction rating is generated by using the results of the entire survey rather than using one question as the satisfaction rating.

Performance Measure 3.b: Maintenance Enforcement Program: Dollars Due Compared to Dollars Received (Per Cent Collected)

Terms of court orders are entered into the automated Maintenance Information Management System (MIMS). Support payments that are due each month are then calculated by MIMS. Payments received are also entered into the system and calculated by MIMS monthly. Regular dollars due are compared by MIMS to net revenues to determine the percentage of dollars due that are collected. This collection rate is presented monthly to program management as an administrative tool. The data is aggregated into an annual figure to provide the collection rate for the year.

Performance Measure 3.c: Client Satisfaction with Legal Aid Services

To gather opinions on legal aid services, Legal Aid Alberta (LAA) conducted a telephone survey with legal aid applicants. Legal aid officers informed applicants about the survey during the interview process and recorded their consent to being contacted for the survey. Only those applicants who gave their consent were contacted by Prairie Research Associates Inc. (PRA), an independent external consultant.

In consultation with staff at LAA, PRA developed a survey questionnaire. To enable a comparison of selected survey results over time, the questionnaire contains many questions that are either identical or similar to the questions from the 2006-07 survey.

By March 31, 2008, PRA had completed the telephone survey with 290 legal aid applicants, of whom 201 had received legal aid, 68 had been denied coverage, and 21 could not report on the status of their legal aid application. The number of respondents is lower than that of the previous administrations of the survey, where between 400 and 500 applicants completed surveys. This year, fewer applicants consented to being contacted for the survey than in previous years, i.e., 1,055 consented in 2008 compared to 1,337 in 2007. The response rate for this year is 55 per cent.

Goal Four *– Improve Understanding of and Confidence in the Justice System*

Performance Measure 4.a: Public Knowledge of the Justice System

A public opinion telephone survey is conducted on an annual basis. The survey averages ten minutes in length and was last conducted in early 2008. Professionally trained interviewers conduct all interviews from a central telephone facility. The survey is completed on a computer-assisted telephone interviewing system that allows for ongoing tabulation of results. In 2008, the sample size for this survey question was 750. To survey a random and representative sample of adult Albertans, quotas were established based on Statistics Canada's 2006 Census data. In each of the six geographic regions of the province, the number of interviews in each age-gender segment was proportionate to their 2006 population estimates. Results are reliable to within ± 3.6 per cent at the 95 per cent confidence level.

Performance Measure 4.b: Public Confidence in the Justice System

As described under ***Performance Measure 4.a:*** *Public Knowledge of the Justice System.*

Goal Five *– Assist Government Ministries to Achieve Their Objectives Through the Provision of Effective Legal and Related Strategic Services*

Performance Measure 5.a: Client Satisfaction with Legal Services

Client satisfaction with legal services is determined by an internally conducted survey. Alberta Finance's Statistics Unit provided advice on the survey in 2007-08. A random sample of 1,471 clients was chosen from the total population of 2,660. Out of the 1,471 surveys sent out, 520 responses were received, for a response rate of 35.3 per cent. Based on this response, overall survey results are precise within ± 3.9 per cent at the 95 per cent confidence level and ± 5.1 per cent at the 99 per cent confidence level. Seventeen questions in the survey asked respondents to rate their level of satisfaction with services received. The satisfaction scale provided for these questions was comprised of five levels of satisfaction with 1 representing "Very Dissatisfied" and 5 representing "Very Satisfied". The 2007 survey was conducted online and the invitations were emailed to client contacts as opposed to previous years when paper survey questionnaires were mailed out to clients. This improvement in questionnaire distribution was implemented to capture cost savings and enhance response rate.

Performance Measure 5.b: Client Satisfaction with Assistance in Meeting Corporate Goals

As described under ***Performance Measure 5.a:*** *Client Satisfaction with Legal Services.*

Anti-Terrorism Act

The *Anti-Terrorism Act* requires the Attorney General of Alberta to publish an annual report on the operation of those parts of the Act dealing with investigative hearings and recognizance with conditions.

This constitutes the annual report of the Attorney General of Alberta covering the period from December 24, 2006 to December 23, 2007.

Annual Report of the Attorney General of Alberta – December 24, 2006 to December 23, 2007

I. Report on the Operation of Sections 83.28 and 83.29 (Investigative Hearing)

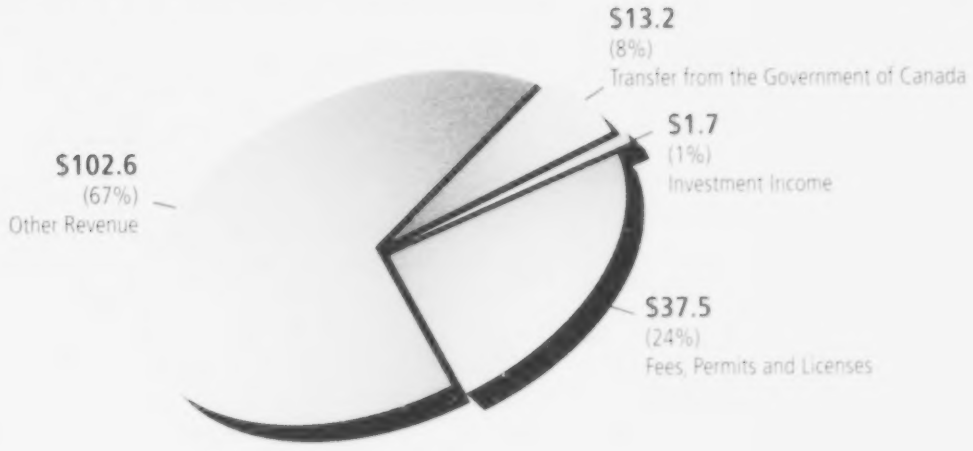
For the period from December 24, 2006 to December 23, 2007, the Attorney General of Alberta reports that there were no applications initiated under these sections of the *Criminal Code*. As such, there is no data to report in relation to the reporting requirements under paragraphs 83.31(1)(a) to (c) of the *Criminal Code*.

II. Report on the Operation of Section 83.3 (Recognizance with Conditions)

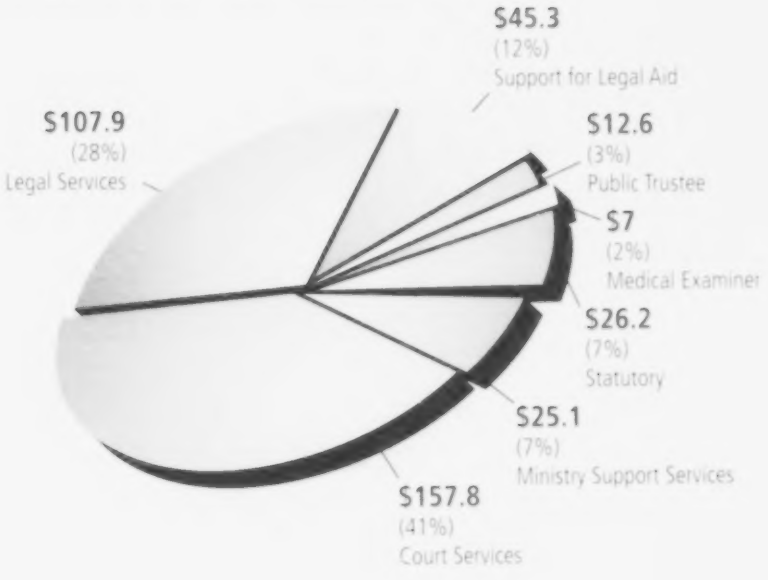
For the period from December 24, 2006 to December 23, 2007, the Attorney General of Alberta reports that there were no cases initiated under this section of the *Criminal Code*. As such, there is no data to report in relation to the reporting requirements in paragraphs 83.31(2)(a) to (f) of the *Criminal Code*.

Financial Analysis and Discussion

2007-08 Actual Revenue by Source ($155.0 million)



2007-08 Actual Expense by Program ($381.9 million)



Operating Results

Ministry revenues of $155 million were $12.4 million higher in 2007-08 than the previous year. Ministry expenses of $381.9 million were $50.4 million higher than the previous year, which is consistent with the approved increases to the Ministry's base budget. Revenues and expenses are from the Statement of Operations on page 60.

Revenue

Total revenue increased by $12.4 million from the previous year. Other revenues accounted for $11.9 million of the increase and included higher revenues in fines and fine late payment penalties due to increased enforcement in the province, the Maintenance Enforcement Program (MEP) collections, and the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims (MVAC) Recovery Program.

Expenses

Ministry expenses were $0.9 million lower than the approved spending level of $382.8 million. Voted operating expenses were $0.4 million higher than the approved budget of $355.3 million. Statutory expenses, which include the MVAC Program, were $1.3 million lower than the approved budget of $27.5 million.

Comparison of 2007-08 Budget to 2007-08 Actual

Alberta Justice has one of the highest human resource budgets in the province. As a result, the Ministry is highly sensitive to increases for negotiated salary settlements and compensation increases, and is reliant on its specialized workforce to deliver services to Albertans and the Government.

In 2007-08, additional expenditures were required to cover negotiated salary settlements, increased compensation for specialized staff, and to cover the increased cost of additional resources for the prosecution service. A mid-year supplementary estimate of $9.5 million was approved to cover these additional costs.

The increased expenditures were partially offset by lower spending in MVAC and decreased manpower costs across the Ministry due to delays in the recruitment of specialized resources.

Comparison of 2007-08 Actual to 2006-07 Actual

In 2007-08, $25.7 million of the Ministry's increase from the previous year was due to negotiated salary, wage and employee benefit increases, increased compensation, and additional resources for the prosecution service, Aboriginal litigation, enhanced capacity in the Courts and Criminal Justice divisions to support additional policing and increased enforcement in the province and to support collections for MEP.

Other significant increases include an increase to the grant for Legal Aid, one-time funding for the Crime Reduction and Safe Communities Task Force, additional funding for ministry-wide information technology initiatives such as the development of a Ministry Intranet and migration to the Government of Alberta's common technology platform. In addition, statutory expenses increased by $7.6 million primarily due to the valuation adjustments of outstanding claims involving uninsured and unknown vehicles.

EXPENSE BY CORE BUSINESS
(thousands of dollars)

	Comparable		
	2007-08 Budget	2007-08 Actual	2006-07 Actual
Prosecutions	56,978	64,862	53,126
Courts	161,674	158,975	143,697
Legal and Strategic Services to Government	34,582	34,500	28,610
Justice Services to Albertans	129,576	123,558	106,028
Ministry Expense	**382,810**	**381,895**	**331,461**

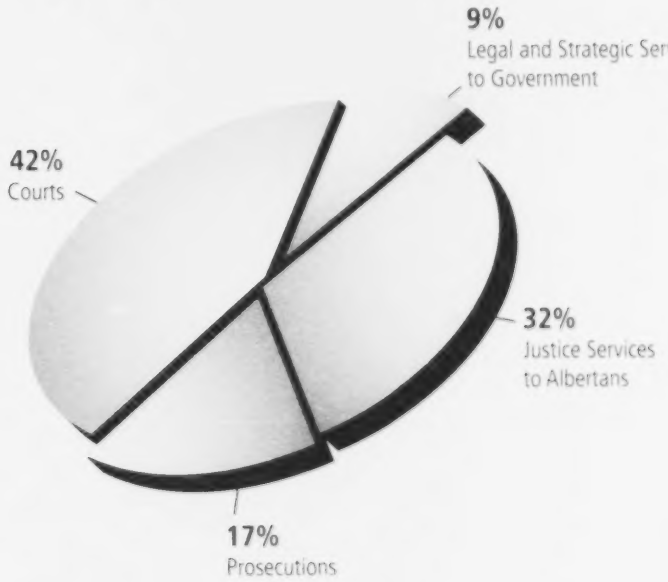
Prosecutions: Includes Criminal Justice Division.

Courts: Includes Calgary Court Operations, Edmonton Court Operations, Regional Court Operations, the Court of Appeal and the Fines Enforcement Program.

Legal and Strategic Services to Government: Includes Civil Law, Legislative Counsel Office and Institute of Law Reform.

Justice Services to Albertans: Includes Maintenance Enforcement Program, Legal Aid Alberta, the Office of the Public Trustee, the Medical Examiner's Office, Family Justice Services, the Aboriginal Court Worker Program and Motor Vehicle Accident Claims.

2007-08 Actual Expense by Core Business ($381.9 million)



Core Business Results

The presentation of expenses by core business is provided to enable a link of expenses to the Ministry's goals. Ministry Support Services expenses have been proportionally allocated to each of the Ministry's core businesses.

Comparison of 2007-08 Budget to 2007-08 Actual

Prosecutions expenses of $64.9 million were $7.9 million higher than the budget of $57 million. Included in these higher expenses are costs of additional resources for prosecution services, and increased compensation for specialized resources.

Courts expenses of $159 million were $2.7 million less than the budget of $161.7 million. The reduced spending is primarily due to lower spending in manpower as a result of delays in the recruitment of resources.

Legal and Strategic Services to Government expenses of $34.5 million were only $0.1 million under budget of $34.6 million.

Justice Services to Albertans expenses of $123.6 million were $6 million less than the budget of $129.6 million. This is primarily due to lower spending for the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Program, and an adjustment for valuations of outstanding claims involving uninsured and unknown vehicles.

Comparison of 2007-08 Actual to 2006-07 Actual

In 2007-08, all core businesses were impacted by increased expenditures related to compensation increases.

Prosecutions expenses increased by $11.8 million from $53.1 million to $64.9 million. The increase is reflected in higher expenditures for additional resources for prosecution services, and to enhance capacity in the Criminal Justice Division to support additional policing and increased enforcement in the province.

Courts expenses increased by $15.3 million from $143.7 million to $159 million. The increase is primarily due to costs of the new Calgary Courts Centre, and higher spending used to move forward with the Justice Information Management System Project and enhance capacity in the Courts for additional policing and increased enforcement.

Legal and Strategic Services to Government expenses increased by $5.9 million from $28.6 million to $34.5 million. The increase is primarily due to additional resources for Aboriginal litigation.

Justice Services to Albertans expenses increased by $17.6 million from $106 million to $123.6 million. The $17.6 million is primarily comprised of an increase to the grant for legal aid, funding for additional resources to support Maintenance Enforcement Program collections, and a change to the valuation of outstanding claims involving uninsured and unknown vehicles.

EXPENSE BY FUNCTION (thousands of dollars)	2007-08 Budget	2007-08 Actual	2006-07 Actual
Protection of Persons and Property	310,778	312,880	271,128
Social Services	72,032	69,015	60,333
Ministry Expense	**382,810**	**381,895**	**331,461**

Protection of Persons and Property: Includes expenses for services provided to ensure the security of persons and property through the court of law, regulatory measures and other protection of persons and property.

Social Services: Covers actions taken by the government, either alone or in cooperation with Albertans, to offset or to forestall situations when the well-being of individuals or families is threatened by circumstances beyond their control. This includes the provision of legal aid and motor vehicle accident claims.

2007-08 Actual Expenses by Function ($381.9 million)

Functional Results

The *Protection of Persons and Property* function includes Court Services, Legal Services, Public Trustee, Medical Examiner and Ministry Support Services Programs; and the *Social Services* function includes Support for Legal Aid and the statutory appropriation for the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims (MVAC) Program.

Comparison of 2007-08 Budget to 2007-08 Actual

Protection of Persons and Property expenses were $2.1 million higher than the approved budget of $310.8 million. The increased spending is primarily due to higher expenditures for staff salary settlements, increased compensation for legal officers and additional resources for prosecution services. This increase was partially offset by lower spending in manpower due to delays in the recruitment of specialized resources.

Social Services expenses were $3 million less than the budget of $72 million. The difference is in the MVAC Program, which had lower program delivery spending than expected and the valuation change of outstanding claims involving uninsured and unknown vehicles.

Comparison of 2007-08 Actual to 2006-07 Actual

Protection of Persons and Property expenses increased by $41.8 million from $271.1 million in 2006-07 to $312.9 million in 2007-08. This increase is primarily due to higher expenditures in manpower required to cover negotiated salary settlements and compensation increases, and additional resources for the prosecution service and Aboriginal litigation, Maintenance Enforcement Program collections, and enhanced capacity in the Courts and Criminal Justice divisions to support additional policing and increased enforcement in the province.

Other significant increases include the one-time funding for the Crime Reduction and Safe Communities Task Force, and additional funding for ministry-wide information technology initiatives such as the development of a Ministry Intranet and migration to the Government of Alberta common technology platform.

Social Services expenses increased by $8.7 million from $60.3 million in 2006-07 to $69 million in 2007-08. The increase is primarily due to a higher grant to Legal Aid, and the change to valuation of outstanding claims involving uninsured and unknown vehicles.

Financial Information

Ministry of Justice and Attorney General

Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2008

AUDITED

May 16, 2008

CONTENTS MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND ATTORNEY GENERAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Auditor's Report 59

Statement of Operations 60

Statement of Financial Position 61

Statement of Cash Flows 62

Notes to the Financial Statements 63

Schedule of Revenues 73

Schedule of Dedicated Revenue Initiatives 74

Schedule of Expenses

Directly Incurred Detailed by Object 75

Schedule of Budget 76

Schedule of Comparison of Expenses

Directly Incurred, Equipment Inventory Purchases, and Capital Investments and Statutory Expenses by Element to Authorized Budget 77

Schedule of Salary and Benefits Disclosure 84

Schedule of Related Party Transactions 85

Schedule of Allocated Costs 86

AUDITOR GENERAL *Alberta*

Auditor's Report

To the Members of the Legislative Assembly

I have audited the statement of financial position of the Ministry of Justice as at March 31, 2008, and the statements of operations and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the management of the Ministry. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Ministry as at March 31, 2008, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Fred J. Dunn FCA
Auditor General

Edmonton, Alberta
May 16, 2008

Ministry of Justice
Statement of Operations
Year Ended March 31, 2008

(in thousands)

	2008		2007
	Budget (Schedule 4)	Actual	Actual
Revenues (Schedule 1)			
Transfer from the Government of Canada	$ 12,747	$ 13,157	$ 13,122
Investment Income	500	1,720	1,444
Fees, Permits and Licences	38,900	37,490	37,335
Other Revenue	97,462	102,598	90,642
	149,609	154,965	142,543
Expenses – Directly Incurred (Note 2b and Schedule 8)			
Voted (Schedules 3 and 5)			
Ministry Support Services	28,518	25,060	19,264
Court Services	159,548	157,799	142,207
Legal Services	102,489	107,862	91,209
Support for Legal Aid	45,346	45,346	43,196
Public Trustee	12,809	12,565	10,749
Medical Examiner	6,565	7,020	6,220
	355,275	355,652	312,845
Statutory (Schedules 3 and 5)			
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	26,686	25,903	25,711
Valuation Adjustments			
Provision for Doubtful Accounts	200	398	246
Provision for Vacation Pay	649	2,176	1,233
Decrease in Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Liabilities	-	(2,234)	(8,574)
	27,535	26,243	18,616
	382,810	381,895	331,461
Net Operating Results	$ (233,201)	$ (226,930)	$ (188,918)

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

Ministry of Justice
Statement of Financial Position
March 31, 2008

	(in thousands)	
	2008	2007
Assets		
Cash (Note 3)	$ 26,019	$ 17,440
Accounts Receivable (Note 4)	95,025	80,478
Advances	29	42
Tangible Capital Assets (Note 5)	29,210	30,793
	$ 150,283	$ 128,753
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	$ 101,717	$ 109,942
Unearned Revenue	1,319	1,160
	103,036	111,102
Net Assets		
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	17,651	3,912
Net Operating Results	(226,930)	(188,918)
Net Transfer from General Revenues	256,526	202,657
Net Assets at End of Year	47,247	17,651
	$ 150,283	$ 128,753

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

Ministry of Justice
Statement of Cash Flows
Year Ended March 31, 2008

	(in thousands)	
	2008	2007
Operating Transactions		
Net Operating Results	$ (226,930)	$ (188,918)
Non-cash items included in Net Operating Results		
Amortization	6,971	2,838
Valuation Adjustments	340	(7,095)
	(219,619)	(193,175)
Increase in Accounts Receivable	(14,945)	(5,780)
Decrease in Advances	13	5
Increase/(Decrease) in Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	(8,167)	11,501
Increase/(Decrease) in Unearned Revenue	159	(39)
Cash Applied to Operating Transactions	(242,559)	(187,488)
Capital Transactions		
Acquisition of Tangible Capital Assets	(5,388)	(18,657)
Transfer of assets to Solicitor General	-	7
Cash Applied to Capital Transactions	(5,388)	(18,650)
Financing Transactions		
Net Transfer from General Revenues	256,526	202,657
Increase/(Decrease) in Cash	8,579	(3,481)
Cash, Beginning of Year	17,440	20,921
Cash, End of Year	$ 26,019	$ 17,440

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

Note 1 Authority and Purpose

The Ministry of Justice operates under the authority of the *Government Organization Act*, Chapter G-10, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000. The Department of Justice is the sole entity for which the Minister of Justice has been designated as responsible for various acts by the *Government Organization Act* and its regulations.

The Ministry's purpose is to serve Albertans by promoting safe communities, by ensuring access to the courts and other methods of dispute resolution, by providing legal and related strategic services to the Government of Alberta, and by communicating with Albertans about the administration of justice.

Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices

The recommendations of the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants are the primary source for the disclosed basis of accounting. These financial statements are prepared in accordance with the following accounting policies that have been established by government for all departments.

(a) Reporting Entity

The reporting entity is the Ministry of Justice, which consists of the Department of Justice for which the Minister of Justice is accountable. These financial statements include the activities of the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims program (a statutory appropriation).

All departments of the Government of Alberta operate within the General Revenue Fund (the Fund). The Fund is administered by the Minister of Finance. All cash receipts of departments are deposited into the Fund and all cash disbursements made by departments are paid from the Fund. Net transfer from General Revenues is the difference between all cash receipts and all cash disbursements made.

(b) Basis of Financial Reporting

Revenues

All revenues are reported on the accrual method of accounting except for payments on Motor Vehicle Accident Claims judgment debts, which are recorded when received. Cash received for which goods or services have not been provided by year-end is recorded as unearned revenue.

Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices (continued)

Dedicated Revenue

Dedicated revenue initiatives provide a basis for authorizing spending. Dedicated revenues are shown as credits or recoveries in the details of the Government Estimates for a supply vote. If actual dedicated revenues are less than budget and total voted expenses are not reduced by an amount sufficient to cover the deficiency in dedicated revenues, the following year's voted expenses are encumbered. If actual dedicated revenues exceed budget, the Department may, with the approval of the Treasury Board, use the excess revenue to fund additional expenses on the program. Schedule 2 discloses information on the Department's dedicated revenue initiatives.

Expenses

Directly Incurred

Directly incurred expenses are those costs the Ministry has primary responsibility and accountability for, as reflected in the Government's budget documents.

In addition to program operating expenses like salaries, supplies, etc., directly incurred expenses also include:

- amortization of tangible capital assets.
- pension costs, which comprise the cost of employer contributions for current service of employees during the year.
- valuation adjustments, which include changes in the valuation allowances used to reflect financial assets at their net recoverable or other appropriate value. Valuation adjustments also represent the change in management's estimate of future payments arising from obligations relating to vacation pay, guarantees and indemnities.

Incurred by Others

Services contributed by other entities in support of the Ministry's operations are disclosed in Schedule 8.

Assets

Financial assets of the Ministry are limited to financial claims, such as advances to and receivables from other organizations, employees and other individuals.

Assets acquired by right are not included. Tangible capital assets of the Ministry are recorded at historical cost and amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets. The threshold for capitalizing new systems development is $100,000 and the threshold for all other tangible capital assets is $5,000.

Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices (continued)

Liabilities

Liabilities are recorded to the extent that they present obligations as a result of events and transactions occurring prior to the end of the fiscal year. The settlement of liabilities will result in sacrifice of economic benefits in the future.

Net Assets (Liabilities)

Net assets (liabilities) represent the difference between the carrying value of assets held by the Ministry and its liabilities.

Measurement Uncertainty
(in thousands)

Measurement uncertainty exists when there is a significant variance between the amount recognized in the financial statements and another reasonably possible amount.

Included in accounts receivable, recorded as $95,025 in these financial statements, are fines of $53,316 (2007 - $50,244) that are subject to measurement uncertainty. Accounts receivable excludes certain outstanding federal statute and provincial statute fines that are expected to be satisfied by means other than cash payment. The other means include participation in the fine option program or time served in a correctional institution at the option of the person owing the fine. Outstanding fines expected to be satisfied by other means of $6,540 (2007 - $5,212) have been deducted from total outstanding fines. The estimate of $53,316 is based on the actual percentage satisfied in this manner from April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008. Changes in the proportion of fines satisfied by other means may have a material effect on future operating results.

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities, recorded as $101,717 in these financial statements, is subject to measurement uncertainty. Accrued liabilities includes an estimate of $52,036 (2007 - $53,998) for unsettled claims under the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims program based on a calculated settlement value per claim. Changes to the settlement value may have a material effect on future operating results (Note 8).

Valuation of Financial Assets and Liabilities

Fair value is the amount of consideration agreed upon in an arm's length transaction between knowledgeable, willing parties who are under no compulsion to act.

The fair values of cash, accounts receivable, advances, and accounts payable and accrued liabilities are estimated to approximate their carrying values because of the short term nature of these instruments.

Note 3 Cash

Cash consists of demand deposits in the Consolidated Cash Investment Trust Fund ("CCITF"). The CCITF is administered by the Ministry of Finance with the objective of providing competitive interest income to depositors while maintaining maximum security and liquidity of depositors' capital. The portfolio comprises high quality short-term and mid-term fixed-income securities with a maximum term-to-maturity of three years. As at March 31, 2008, securities held by the CCITF have an average effective market yield of 4.81% per annum (2007 – 4.36% per annum).

Note 4 Accounts Receivable
(in thousands)

	2008			2007
	Gross Amount	Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	Net Realizable Value	Net Realizable Value
Government of Canada	$ 14,182	$ -	$ 14,182	$ 5,576
Fines – Provincial	21,166	1,168	19,998	17,753
Fines – Federal	15,190	2,564	12,626	13,278
Ticket Processing	16,960	561	16,399	14,556
Fine Late Payment Penalty	18,333	1,142	17,191	15,601
Other	17,119	2,490	14,630	13,714
	$ 102,950	$ 7,925	$ 95,025	$ 80,478

Accounts receivable are unsecured and non-interest bearing.

Note 5 Tangible Capital Assets
(in thousands)

	Equipment	Computer Hardware and software	2008 Total	2007 Total
Estimated Useful Life	10 years	5 – 10 years		
Historical Cost*				
Beginning of year	$ 8,398	$ 38,027	$ 46,425	$ 28,135
Additions	380	5,008	5,388	18,657
Disposal, including write-downs	-	-	-	(367)
	$ 8,778	$ 43,035	$ 51,813	$ 46,425
Accumulated Amortization				
Beginning of year	$ 4,134	$ 11,498	$ 15,632	$ 13,154
Amortization expense	627	6,344	6,971	2,838
Effect of disposals	-	-	-	(360)
	$ 4,761	$ 17,842	$ 22,603	$ 15,632
Net Book Value at March 31, 2008	$ 4,017	$ 25,193	$ 29,210	
Net Book Value at March 31, 2007	$ 4,264	$ 26,529		$ 30,793

*Historical cost additions for the year ended March 31, 2008 include work-in-progress of $550, which is comprised of computer hardware and software (2007 - $16,060).

Note 6 Contractual Obligations
(in thousands)

	2008	2007
Service contracts	$13,962	$5,425
Operating leases	173	301
	$14,135	$5,726

The aggregate amounts payable for the unexpired terms of these contractual obligations are as follows:

	Service Contracts	Operating Leases	Total
2009	$10,273	$94	$10,367
2010	1,389	51	1,440
2011	1,127	28	1,155
2012, or thereafter	1,173	-	1,173
	$13,962	$173	$14,135

Note 7 Contingent Liabilities
(in thousands)

At March 31, 2008, the Ministry is a defendant in thirty five legal claims (2007 – forty one legal claims). Twenty six of these claims have specified amounts totaling $1,121,594 and the remaining nine have no specified amount (2007 – thirty five claims with a specified amount of $1,132,394 and six with no specified amount). Included in the total legal claims are five claims amounting to $941,300 (2007 - six claims amounting to $920,900) in which the Ministry has been jointly named with other entities. Thirty one claims amounting to $1,083,556 (2007 – thirty one claims totaling $1,113,295) are covered by the Alberta Risk Management Fund.

The resulting loss, if any, from these claims cannot be determined.

Within the provision of the *Public Trustee Act* the Office of the Public Trustee remits unclaimed estate monies, which is reported as general revenue of the Department. If entitled beneficiaries are subsequently located, previously unclaimed estate monies are distributed to the beneficiaries.

Note 8 Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Program
(in thousands)

Personal Injury Settlements

The Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Program is a publicly administered program that pays for judgments arising from motor vehicle accidents involving uninsured or unidentified vehicles in Alberta. The program operates under the authority of the *Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Act*. At March 31, 2008, there were one thousand five hundred and fifty nine (2007 – one thousand six hundred and forty five) unsettled motor vehicle accident claims under this program amounting to $176,870 (2007 - $190,185). Of the unsettled claims, it was estimated that approximately $52,036 (2007 - $53,998) may arise from court ordered judgments and has been recorded as a liability.

The *Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Act* states that in order for claimants involved in motor vehicle accidents with uninsured or unidentified vehicles to be entitled to compensation, the Minister of Justice must receive a court judgment. In accordance with the Act, liabilities for personal injury claims are accrued when a court ordered judgment is received. Liabilities for motor vehicle accident claims amounting to $495 at March 31, 2008 (2007 - $652) are included in the total claim expenditures of $26,453, which includes tangible capital asset purchases of $550 (2007 - $25,711, tangible capital asset purchases of $0).

Supplementary Medical and Rehabilitation Expenses

The estimated liability for supplementary medical and rehabilitation expenses on approved applications filed up to March 31, 2008, is $4,820 (2007 - $5,093) and has been recorded as a liability. As at March 31, 2008, the maximum amount that may be payable to or on behalf of entitled applicants pursuant to the limits set in Section 17 of the *Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Act* was approximately $11,084 (2007 - $11,997).

Note 9 Trust Funds Under Administration
(in thousands)

The Ministry administers trust funds that are regulated funds consisting of public money over which the Legislature has no power of appropriation. Because the Province has no equity in the funds and administers them for the purpose of various trusts, they are not included in the Ministry's financial statements.

As at March 31, 2008, the amount of trust assets under administration net of trust liabilities was as follows:

	2008	2007 Restated
Public Trustee – Trust Funds (a)	$ 501,829	$ 473,354
Various Court Offices (b)	77,154	66,634
Maintenance Enforcement (c)	7,676	7,622
Solicitors Trust	193	186
	$ 586,852	$ 547,796

(a) The Office of the Public Trustee administers the estates of decedents, dependent adults and minors. Trust fund receipts exceeded trust fund disbursements and income adjustments in 2007-2008 by $28,475 (2007 restated – disbursements exceeded receipts by $5,830). The major sources of receipts and income include pensions and similar receipts; investment income; and acquisition and sale of client estates. Significant disbursements include beneficiary distributions; client care and maintenance payments; release of client assets; and fees and taxes paid on behalf of clients. The Office of the Public Trustee administers other estate assets consisting of client owned securities and investments, real estate holdings, accounts receivable, and personal property and other assets totaling $76,602 as at March 31, 2008 (2007 restated - $62,007). These assets are valued at fair value at the date the office obtains custody or nominal value when fair value is not readily determinable. Client liabilities as at March 31, 2008 of $16,107 (2007 restated - $16,033), are comprised of accounts, mortgages and notes payable, and are recorded at nominal value where actual value is not readily determinable.

The comparative figures for 2007 have been restated to reflect the actual amount of the Trust Funds administered by the Office of the Public Trustee. Trust Funds under administration by the Public Trustee at March 31, 2007 were estimated to be $ 473,406 at the time of the completion of the financial statements of the Ministry of Justice. Actual Trust Funds under administration were determined to be $ 473,354 after completion of the financial statements of the Office of the Public Trustee. There was no impact on the Statement of Operations, Statement of Financial Position or Statement of Cash Flow of the Ministry of Justice for March 31, 2007 as a result of the restatement.

Note 9 Trust Funds Under Administration (continued)
(in thousands)

(b) The Court Offices receive and disburse payments for fines, bail and other payments involving civil litigants. Total Court trust receipts exceeded total trust fund disbursements in 2007-2008 by $10,520 (2007 – $8,505).

(c) The Maintenance Enforcement Program receives and disburses court ordered maintenance and child support. Total trust receipts exceeded total trust fund disbursements in 2007-2008 by $54 (2007 - $196).

Note 10 Payments Under Agreement
(in thousands)

The Ministry has entered into agreements to deliver programs and services that are fully funded by the Government of Northwest Territories (GNWT) and the Government of Canada (Justice Canada). Costs incurred under these agreements are made by the Ministry under the authority of the *Financial Administration Act*, Section 25. Accounts receivable includes $24 (2007 - $0) from the GNWT and $29 (2007 - $0) from Justice Canada.

The agreement with the GNWT is for services provided by the Medical Examiners Office. Services include examination of remains, medico-legal autopsy, toxicology analysis, and expert testimony in court or at a Coroner's inquest.

The agreement with Justice Canada is for French language training in order to prepare Alberta Provincial Court judges to sit on the Itinerant Francophone Provincial Court Bench.

Amounts paid under agreements with program sponsors are as follows:

	2008	2007
GNWT – Medical Examiner Services	$ 24	$ -
Justice Canada – French Language Training	29	-
Royal Canadian Mounted Police – Toxicology Casework	-	45
	$ 53	$ 45

Note 11 Defined Benefit Plans
(in thousands)

The Ministry participates in the multi-employer pension plans, Management Employees Pension Plan and Public Service Pension Plan. The Ministry also participates in the multi-employer Supplementary Retirement Plan for Public Service Managers. The expense for these pension plans is equivalent to the annual contributions of $16,780 for the year ended March 31, 2008 (2007 - $14,606).

At December 31, 2007, the Management Employees Pension Plan reported a deficiency of $84,341 (2006 - $6,765) and the Public Service Pension Plan reported a deficiency of $92,070 (2006 – surplus of $153,024). At December 31, 2007, the Supplementary Retirement Plan for Public Service Managers had an actuarial surplus of $1,510 (2006 - $3,698).

The Ministry participates in the Provincial Judges and Masters in Chambers Pension Plan. The expenses for this pension plan are $8,627 for the year ended March 31, 2008 (2007 - $7,424).

The Ministry also participates in two multi-employer Long Term Disability Income Continuance Plans. At March 31, 2008, the Bargaining Unit Plan reported an actuarial deficiency of $6,319 (2007 – surplus of $153) and the Management, Opted Out and Excluded Plan an actuarial surplus of $7,874 (2007 – $10,148). The expense for these two plans is limited to employer's annual contributions for the year.

Note 12 Comparative Figures

Certain 2007 figures have been reclassified to conform to the 2008 presentation.

Note 13 Approval of Financial Statements

The financial statements were approved by the Senior Financial Officer and the Deputy Minister of Justice.

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Revenues
Year Ended March 31, 2008

Schedule 1

(in thousands)

	2008		2007
	Budget	Actual	Actual
Transfer from the Government of Canada			
Legal Aid	$ 10,376	$ 10,738	$ 10,751
Other	2,371	2,419	2,371
	12,747	13,157	13,122
Investment Income – Bank Interest	500	1,720	1,444
Fees, Permits and Licences			
Court Fees	14,380	14,038	13,762
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims (MVAC)	16,500	18,421	17,548
Public Trustee Fees	7,525	4,423	5,473
Other	495	608	552
	38,900	37,490	37,335
Other Revenue			
Fines	60,900	58,308	50,933
Maintenance Enforcement Program	13,152	12,648	11,257
Fines – Late Payment Penalty	13,800	16,036	13,896
MVAC Recoveries	8,115	10,707	7,759
Miscellaneous	1,495	4,899	6,797
	97,462	102,598	90,642
	$ 149,609	$ 154,965	$ 142,543

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Dedicated Revenue Initiatives
Year Ended March 31, 2008

Schedule 2

(in thousands)

	2008		
	Authorized Dedicated Revenues	Actual Dedicated Revenues	(Shortfall) / Excess
Ticket Processing	$ 24,212	$ 26,255	$ 2,043
Provincial Civil Claims	1,000	835	(165)
Maintenance Enforcement	3,600	4,160	560
	$ 28,812	$ 31,250	$ 2,438

Ticket Processing revenues represent the Province's share of ticket revenue designated towards all expenditures in Court Services, Criminal Justice and Corporate Services incurred in the processing and handling of violation tickets.

Provincial Civil Claims revenues represent amounts received from the public for filing civil claims in excess of seven thousand five hundred dollars in Provincial Court. These revenues are dedicated towards the costs of processing these claims.

Maintenance Enforcement revenues represent deterrent penalties and service fees to promote timely payment of maintenance to improve and expand services available for clients.

Ministry of Justice **Schedule 3**
Schedule to Financial Statements
Expenses – Directly Incurred Detailed by Object
Year Ended March 31, 2008

(in thousands)

	2008		2007
	Budget	Actual	Actual
Voted			
Salaries, Wages and Employee Benefits	$ 235,350	$ 233,415	$ 207,695
Supplies and Services	66,039	68,353	57,546
Grants	46,111	46,660	44,513
Financial Transactions and Other	229	255	255
Amortization of Tangible Capital Assets	7,546	6,969	2,836
Total Voted Expenses	$ 355,275	$ 355,652	$ 312,845
Statutory			
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	$ 26,686	$ 25,903	$ 25,711

Schedule 4

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Budget
Year Ended March 31, 2008

(in thousands)

	2007-2008 Estimates (a)	Adjustment	2007-2008 Budget	Voted Supplementary (b)	2007-2008 Authorized Budget
Revenues:					
Transfer from the Government of Canada	$ 12,747	$ -	$ 12,747	$ -	$ 12,747
Investment Income	500	-	500	-	500
Fees, Permits and Licences	38,900	-	38,900	-	38,900
Other Revenue	97,462	-	97,462	-	97,462
	149,609	-	149,609	-	149,609
Expenses - Directly Incurred:					
Voted:					
Ministry Support Services	28,518	-	28,518	309	28,827
Court Services	159,548	-	159,548	1,583	161,131
Legal Services	102,489	-	102,489	7,037	109,526
Support for Legal Aid	45,346	-	45,346	-	45,346
Public Trustee	12,809	-	12,809	499	13,308
Medical Examiner	6,565	-	6,565	157	6,722
Dedicated Revenue Shortfall	-	-	-	-	-
	355,275	-	355,275	9,585	364,860
Statutory:					
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	26,686	-	26,686	-	26,686
Valuation Adjustments					
Provision for Doubtful Accounts	200	-	200	-	200
Provision for Vacation Pay	649	-	649	-	649
	27,535	-	27,535	-	27,535
Total Expenses	382,810	-	382,810	9,585	392,395
Net Operating Results	$ (233,201)	$ -	$ (233,201)	$ (9,585)	$ (242,786)
Equipment/Inventory Purchases	$ 4,402	$ -	$ 4,402	$ -	$ 4,402

(a) Estimates have been adjusted to reflect the transfer of $800 for infrastructure planning purposes from Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation pursuant to the Appropriation Act, 2007, section 5(4)(a).

(b) Supplementary Estimates were approved on December 7, 2007.

Ministry of Justice **Schedule 5**

Schedule to Financial Statements

Comparison of Expenses – Directly Incurred, Equipment/Inventory Purchases and Capital Investments and Statutory Expenses by Element to Authorized Budget

Year Ended March 31, 2008

(in thousands)

	2007-2008 Estimates (a)	Adjustments (b)	2007-2008 Budget	Authorized Supplementary (c)	2007-2008 Authorized Budget	2007-2008 Actual (d)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
Ministry Support Services	$ 28,678	$ –	$ 28,678	$ 309	$ 28,987	$ 25,069	$ 3,918
Court Services	162,548	(165)	162,383	1,583	163,966	160,999	2,967
Legal Services	103,289	–	103,289	7,037	110,326	109,132	1,194
Support for Legal Aid	45,346	–	45,346	–	45,346	45,346	–
Public Trustee	12,809	(500)	12,309	499	12,808	12,611	197
Medical Examiner	6,907	–	6,907	157	7,064	7,333	(269)
	$ 359,577	$ (665)	$ 358,912	$ 9,585	$ 368,497	$ 360,490	$ 8,007
STATUTORY EXPENSES							
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	$ 26,786	$ –	$ 26,786	$ –	$ 26,786	$ 26,453	$ 333
Valuation Adjustments	849	–	849	–	849	340	509
	$ 27,635	$ –	$ 27,635	$ –	$ 27,635	$ 26,793	$ 842

(a) Estimates have been adjusted to reflect the transfer of $800 for infrastructure planning purposes from Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation pursuant to the Appropriation Act, 2007, section 5(4)(a).

(b) Adjustments made to report the dedicated revenue shortfall for provincial civil claims of $165 and the alternate funding model surplus of $500.

(c) Supplementary Estimates were approved on December 7, 2007.

(d) Includes achievement bonus amounting to $5,792.

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Comparison of Expenses – Directly Incurred, Equipment/Inventory Purchases and Capital Investments and Statutory Expenses by Element to Authorized Budget
Year Ended March 31, 2008
(in thousands)

Schedule 5 (continued)

	Program	2007-2008 Estimates (a)	Adjustments (b)	2007-2008 Budget	Authorized Supplementary (c)	2007-2008 Authorized Budget	2007-2008 Actual (d)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
1.0.1	Minister's Office	$ 561	$ -	$ 561	$ -	$ 561	$ 455	$ 106
1.0.2	Deputy Minister's Office	598	-	598	4	602	671	(69)
1.0.3	Communications	489	-	489	8	497	438	59
1.0.4	Corporate Services							
	-Operating Expense	15,497	-	15,497	237	15,734	14,648	1,086
	-Equipment/Inventory Purchases	160	-	160	-	160	9	151
1.0.5	Human Resources	3,451	-	3,451	49	3,500	3,072	428
1.0.6	Management Information Services	5,446	-	5,446	-	5,446	3,692	1,754
1.0.7	Policy Secretariat	976	-	976	11	987	905	82
1.08	Crime Reduction and Safe Communities Task Force	1,500	-	1,500	-	1,500	1,179	321
TOTAL PROGRAM		$ 28,678	$ -	$ 28,678	$ 309	$ 28,987	$ 25,069	$ 3,918

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Comparison of Expenses – Directly Incurred, Equipment/Inventory Purchases and Capital Investments and Statutory Expenses by Element to Authorized Budget
Year Ended March 31, 2008
(in thousands)

Schedule 5 (continued)

	Program	2007-2008 Estimates (a)	Adjustments (b)	2007-2008 Budget	Authorized Supplementary (c)	2007-2008 Authorized Budget	2007-2008 Actual (d)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
2.1	**Program Support**							
2.1.1	Program Support Services							
	-Operating Expense	$ 22,193	-	22,193	(2,274)	19,919	19,338	581
	-Equipment/Inventory Purchases	3,000	-	3,000	-	3,000	3,194	(194)
2.1.2	Chief Provincial Judge's Office	2,189	$ -	$ 2,189	$ 34	$ 2,223	$ 2,285	$ (62)
2.1.3	Law Libraries	4,102	-	4,102	104	4,206	4,568	(362)
2.1.4	Ticket Processing	24,212	-	24,212	-	24,212	26,090	(1,878)
2.1.5	Provincial Civil Claims	1,000	(165)	835	-	835	1,753	(918)
2.1.6	Aboriginal Court Worker Program	3,638	-	3,638	2	3,640	3,566	74
2.1.7	Civil Mediation	2,126	-	2,126	21	2,147	1,150	997
2.1.8	Self Represented Litigant Services	720	-	720	20	740	586	154
	Total Sub-program	63,180	(165)	63,015	(2,093)	60,922	62,530	(1,608)
2.2	**Calgary Court Operations**							
2.2.1	Calgary Court of Queen's Bench	8,742	-	8,742	393	9,135	8,955	180
2.2.2	Calgary Provincial Court	21,789	-	21,789	586	22,375	20,834	1,541
2.2.3	Calgary Family Justice Services	2,685	-	2,685	66	2,751	2,380	371
2.2.4	Calgary Operations Support	1,558	-	1,558	49	1,607	1,914	(307)
	Total Sub-program	34,774	-	34,774	1,094	35,868	34,083	1,785
2.3	**Edmonton Court Operations**							
2.3.1	Edmonton Court of Queen's Bench	9,099	-	9,099	428	9,527	9,152	375
2.3.2	Edmonton Provincial Court	18,587	-	18,587	442	19,029	18,270	759
2.3.3	Edmonton Family Justice Services							
	-Operating Expense	2,736	-	2,736	62	2,798	2,534	264
	-Equipment/Inventory Purchases	-	-	-	-	-	6	(6)
2.3.4	Edmonton Operations Support	1,894	-	1,894	71	1,965	2,184	(219)
2.3.5	Alberta Review Board	253	-	253	2	255	263	(8)
	Total Sub-program	32,569	-	32,569	1,005	33,574	32,409	1,165

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Comparison of Expenses – Directly Incurred, Equipment/Inventory Purchases and Capital Investments and Statutory Expenses by Element to Authorized Budget
Year Ended March 31, 2008
(in thousands)

Schedule 5 (continued)

	Program	2007-2008 Estimates (a)	Adjustments (b)	2007-2008 Budget	Authorized Supplementary (c)	2007-2008 Authorized Budget	2007-2008 Actual (d)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
2.4	**Regional Court Operations**							
2.4.1	Lethbridge Courts	$ 3,970	$ -	$ 3,970	$ 154	$ 4,124	$ 3,809	315
2.4.2	Red Deer Courts	4,088	-	4,088	175	4,263	3,562	701
2.4.3	Grande Prairie Courts	1,519	-	1,519	121	1,640	1,450	190
2.4.4	Peace River Courts	1,608	-	1,608	68	1,676	1,969	(293)
2.4.5	Wetaskiwin Courts	1,312	-	1,312	60	1,372	1,297	75
2.4.6	Fort McMurray Courts	1,219	-	1,219	51	1,270	1,284	(14)
2.4.7	St. Paul Courts	1,924	-	1,924	63	1,987	1,970	17
2.4.8	Drumheller Courts	488	-	488	26	514	304	210
2.4.9	Medicine Hat Courts	1,463	-	1,463	60	1,523	1,698	(175)
2.4.10	Regional Provincial Courts	6,957	-	6,957	285	7,242	6,832	410
2.4.11	Regional Family Justice Services	2,235	-	2,235	47	2,282	1,786	496
2.4.12	Regional Operations Support	1,108	-	1,108	44	1,152	1,513	(361)
	Total Sub-program	27,891	-	27,891	1,154	29,045	27,474	1571
2.5	**Court of Appeal**							
2.5.1	Court of Appeal	4,134	-	4,134	423	4,557	4,503	54
	Total Sub-program	4,134	-	4,134	423	4,557	4,503	54
TOTAL PROGRAM		$ 162,548	$ (165)	$ 162,383	$ 1,583	$ 163,966	$ 160,999	$ 2,967

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Comparison of Expenses – Directly Incurred, Equipment/Inventory Purchases and Capital Investments and Statutory Expenses by Element to Authorized Budget
Year Ended March 31, 2008
(in thousands)

Schedule 5 (continued)

	Program	2007-2008 Estimates (a)	Adjustments (b)	2007-2008 Budget	Authorized Supplementary (c)	2007-2008 Authorized Budget	2007-2008 Actual (d)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
3.0.1	Law Reform	$ 400	$ -	$ 400	$ -	$ 400	$ 600	$ (200)
3.0.2	Legislative Counsel	2,053	-	2,053	127	2,180	2,192	(12)
3.0.3	Civil Law							
	-Operating Expenses	29,846	-	29,846	2,029	31,875	29,432	2,443
	-Equipment/Inventory Purchases	-	-	-	-	-	73	(73)
3.0.4	Criminal Justice							
	-Operating Expenses	53,208	-	53,208	5,662	58,870	60,368	(1,498)
	-Equipment/Inventory Purchases	-	-	-	-	-	18	(18)
3.0.5	Maintenance Enforcement							
	-Operating Expenses	16,982	-	16,982	(781)	16,201	15,270	931
	-Equipment/Inventory Purchases	800	-	800	-	800	1,179	(379)
TOTAL PROGRAM		$ 103,289	$ -	$ 103,289	$ 7,037	$ 110,326	$ 109,132	$ 1,194

	Program	2007-2008 Estimates (a)	Adjustments (b)	2007-2008 Budget	Authorized Supplementary (c)	2007-2008 Authorized Budget	2007-2008 Actual (d)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
4.0.1	Legal Aid Plan	$ 45,346	$ -	$ 45,346	$ -	$ 45,346	$ 45,346	$ -

Ministry of Justice **Schedule 5 (continued)**

Schedule to Financial Statements

Comparison of Expenses – Directly Incurred, Equipment/Inventory Purchases and Capital Investments and Statutory Expenses by Element to Authorized Budget

Year Ended March 31, 2008

(in thousands)

	Program	2007-2008 Estimates (a)	Adjustments (b)	2007-2008 Budget	Authorized Supplementary (c)	2007-2008 Authorized Budget	2007-2008 Actual (d)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
5.0.1	Public Trustee							
	-Operating Expenses	$ 12,809	$ (500)	$ 12,309	$ 499	$ 12,808	$ 12,565	$ 243
	-Equipment/Inventory Purchases	-	-	-	-	-	46	(46)
TOTAL PROGRAM		$ 12,809	$ (500)	$ 12,309	$ 499	$ 12,808	$ 12,611	$ 197

	Program	2007-2008 Estimates (a)	Adjustments (b)	2007-2008 Budget	Authorized Supplementary (c)	2007-2008 Authorized Budget	2007-2008 Actual (d)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
6.0.1	Medical Examiner							
	-Operating Expenses	$ 6,565	$ -	$ 6,565	$ 157	$ 6,722	$ 7,020	$ (298)
	-Equipment/Inventory Purchases	342	-	342	-	342	313	29
TOTAL PROGRAM		$ 6,907	$ -	$ 6,907	$ 157	$ 7,064	$ 7,333	$ (269)

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Comparison of Expenses – Directly Incurred, Equipment/Inventory Purchases and Capital Investments and Statutory Expenses by Element to Authorized Budget
Year Ended March 31, 2008
(in thousands)

Schedule 5 (continued)

	2007-2008 Estimates (a)	Adjustments (b)	2007-2008 Budget	Authorized Supplementary (c)	2007-2008 Authorized Budget	2007-2008 Actual (d)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims							
-Operating Expenses	$ 26,686	$ -	$ 26,686	$ -	$ 26,686	$ 25,903	$ 783
-Equipment/Inventory Purchases	100	-	100	-	100	550	(450)
Valuation Adjustments	849	-	849	-	849	340	509
	$ 27,635	$ -	27,635	-	27,635	$ 26,793	$ 842

Ministry of Justice **Schedule 6**
Schedule to Financial Statements
Salary and Benefits Disclosure
Year Ended March 31, 2008

	2008				2007
	Base Salary[1]	Other Cash Benefits[2]	Other Non Cash Benefits[3]	Total	Total
Deputy Minister[4]	$ 242,040	$ 54,500	$ 60,868	$ 357,408	$ 314,783
Assistant Deputy Minister, Legal Services	175,705	33,900	47,855	257,460	233,001
Assistant Deputy Minister, Court Services	164,736	31,152	39,202	235,090	227,996
Assistant Deputy Minister, Criminal Justice	175,700	26,700	53,868	256,268	238,846
Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services	164,736	56,126	48,421	269,283	214,223
Executive Director, Human Resources	133,683	20,382	32,438	186,503	167,783

Prepared in accordance with Treasury Board Directive 12/98 as amended.

Total salary and benefits relating to a position are disclosed.

(1) Base salary includes regular base pay.

(2) Other cash benefits includes bonuses, vacation payouts, overtime and lump sum payments.

(3) Other non-cash benefits include the government's share of all employee benefits and contributions or payments made on behalf of employees including pension, health care, dental coverage, group life insurance, short and long term disability plans, professional memberships and tuition fees.

(4) Automobile provided, no dollar amount included in benefits and allowances.

Ministry of Justice **Schedule 7**
Schedule to Financial Statements
Related Party Transactions
Year Ended March 31, 2008
(in thousands)

Related parties are those entities consolidated or accounted for on a modified equity basis in the Province of Alberta's financial statements. Related parties also include management in the Ministry.

The Ministry and its employees paid or collected certain taxes and fees set by regulation for permits, licences and other charges. These amounts were incurred in the normal course of business, reflect charges applicable to all users, and have been excluded from this Schedule.

The Ministry had the following transactions with related parties recorded on the Statement of Operations and the Statement of Financial Position at the amount of consideration agreed upon between the related parties:

	Other Entities	
	2008	2007
Expenses – Directly Incurred		
Service Alberta	$ 10,509	$ 9,361
Corporate Internal Audit Service	55	52
Parking	-	3
	$ 10,564	$ 9,416

At March 31, 2008 the Ministry recorded accounts receivable from Service Alberta for Motor Vehicle Accident Claims (MVAC) fees on the Statement of Operations and Statement of Financial Position of $1,880 (2007 – 1,618). The Ministry also included an outstanding deposit from Service Alberta of $6,523 (2007 - $5,853) in the Various Court Offices Trust Fund as at March 31, 2008.

The Ministry also had the following transactions with related parties for which no consideration was exchanged. The amounts for these related party transactions are estimated based on the costs incurred by the service provider to provide the service. These amounts are not recorded in the financial statements.

	Other Entities		Entities in the Ministry	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
Revenues – Legal Services	$ 26,701	$ 21,121	$ 5,190	$ 4,316
Expenses – Indirectly Incurred				
Accommodation	$ 51,579	$ 38,348	$ -	$ -
Legal Services	-	-	5,190	4,316
Service Alberta	4,324	4,293	-	-
Other Services	151	46	-	-
	$ 56,054	$ 42,687	$ 5,190	$ 4,316

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Allocated Costs
Year Ended March 31, 2008
(in thousands)

Schedule 8

	2008						2007
		Expenses – Incurred by Others		Valuation Adjustments (4)			
Program	Expenses (1)	Accommodation Costs (2)	Legal Services (3)	Vacation Pay	Doubtful Accounts	Expenses	Expenses
Voted:							
Ministry Support Services	$ 25,060	$ 1,270	$ 2,844	$ 134	$ –	$ 29,308	$ 22,532
Court Services	157,799	41,254	337	671	(472)	199,589	173,487
Legal Services	107,862	6,221	(4,571)	1,330	–	110,842	92,504
Support for Legal Aid	45,346	86	–	–	–	45,432	43,226
Public Trustee	12,565	1,245	323	13	–	14,146	12,322
Medical Examiner	7,020	1,321	623	19	–	8,983	8,085
	355,652	51,397	(444)	2,167	(472)	408,380	352,156
Statutory:							
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	25,903	182	444	9	870	27,408	26,519
	$ 381,555	$ 51,579	$ –	$ 2,176	$ 398	$ 435,708	$ 378,675

(1) Expenses-Directly Incurred as per Statement of Operations, excluding valuation adjustments. (5381,895 plus [2,234-2,176-398] = 5381,555)
(2) Costs for Accommodation (includes grants in lieu of taxes) on Schedule 7, allocated by square footage.
(3) Cost shown for Legal Services on Schedule 7, estimated costs incurred by each program.
(4) Valuation Adjustments as per Statement of Operations. Employee Benefits and Doubtful Accounts were allocated as follows:
- Vacation Pay – allocated to the program by employee.
- Doubtful Accounts Provision – estimated allocation to program.

OTHER INFORMATION

The following information is unaudited.

Statement of Remissions, Compromises and Write-offs 88

Civil Law Legal Services Delivery 89

Fine Activity Information 90

Fine Collection Cost Estimates 93

Other Financial Information

Statement of Remissions, Compromises and Write-offs for the Year Ended March 31, 2008

The following statement of compromises and write-offs has been prepared pursuant to Section 23 of the *Financial Administration Act*. The statement includes all compromises and write-offs of the Ministry of Justice made or approved during the fiscal year.

		$ (000)
Remissions:	$	-
Compromises:		
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	$	149
Maintenance Enforcement Program		-
	$	149
Write-offs:		
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	$	1,706
Fines		3,382
Late Payment Penalties		1,136
Abandoned and Seized Vehicles		139
Maintenance Enforcement Program		486
	$	6,849
Total Remissions, Compromises and Write-offs	$	6,998

Civil Law Legal Services Delivery - Current and Prior Year Comparison

Staff Providing Services

Civil Law provides legal and related strategic services to all government ministries. Civil Law maintains a time keeping system to enable its lawyers, paralegals and articling students to record and report the hours of legal services provided in total to each Ministry and their respective programs. In 2007/08 180 lawyers, paralegals and articling students recorded in excess of 214,000 hours of provided legal services and in 2006/07 175 such staff recorded more than 207,000 hours. The total hours of service to each Ministry is used as the basis to allocate legal services costs.

Cost of Legal Services

The costing methodology to estimate the costs for providing legal services for allocation to all client ministries includes the total cost of Civil Law less expenditures on contracted services and grants to third parties. A proportionate amount for support services provided by Corporate Services and Human Resource Services is included in the estimate. The estimate includes accommodation costs for office space in government owned or leased buildings as paid by and reported by the Ministry of Infrastructure, and also includes all or part of salary and benefit costs for lawyers paid directly by client ministries. The estimated costs are allocated to each department based on the hours of service received. Justice, as a service provider, sends the legal services cost information to each Ministry for disclosure in the Related Party Transactions Schedule and the Allocated Costs Schedule to the financial statements of each ministry's annual report.

Client Satisfaction Rate

The percentage of clients who were more than *satisfied* to *very satisfied* with the legal services provided was 88 percent in 2007/08 and 90 percent in 2006/07. This performance measure is fully described under Goal 6 in this annual report.

Current and Prior Year Comparison

The table below summarizes the estimated cost of allocated legal services, the number of hours allocated, the average hourly cost and the client satisfaction rate.

Cost Estimates	2007/08	2006/07
Total Civil Law Costs	$29,431,512	$24,771,566
Deduct Contract Services, Grants, and Amortization	368,933	1,316,898
	$29,062,579	$23,454,668
Add: Support Services	1,633,261	1,204,664
Accommodation	1,194,908	777,874
Client Cost for Lawyers	3,594,777	3,445,213
Total Legal Services Costs for Allocation	$35,485,525	$28,882,419
Number of Hours of Service Provided	214,525.1	207,027.1
Average Hourly Cost	$165.41	$139.51
Client Satisfaction Rate	88%	90%

Fine Activity and Violation Ticket Activity Information

Fine Activity Information

FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL STATUTE OFFENCES AND MUNICIPAL BYLAW OFFENCES

A management information report summarizes fine activity by the recipients entitled to the fine or penalty. The municipalities receive specific provincial statute offence fines and all municipal bylaw fines for offences occurring within municipal boundaries. The majority of municipal fine activity occurs in cities, towns, counties and municipal districts. The Alberta government receives fines for provincial statute offences occurring on primary highways and other specific provincial statute offences. The Alberta government receives any late payment penalties on overdue fines and some fines under the *Criminal Code of Canada* and retains 16 2/3% of *Traffic Safety Act* fines. The Victims of Crime Fund, administered by the Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security, receives a 15 per cent surcharge on all provincial statute fines and a surcharge on selective federal statute offences. These surcharge revenues are used to fund victims programs in Alberta. The federal government receives fines for federal statute offences and selective fines under the *Criminal Code*.

The tables below summarize fines imposed, fine payments and uncollectible fines for the twelve months from April 2007 to March 2008 and for the twelve months from April 2006 to March 2007, by the recipient level of government. The final two tables summarize outstanding fines at March 31, 2008 and March 31, 2007, by the recipient level of government.

Fines Imposed – April 2007 to March 2008

Recipient	Number of Fines Imposed	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Fines Imposed	Percent of Total Value
Municipalities	1,215,818	28.1%	122,517,194	51.0%
Alberta Government	203,445	4.7%	42,090,629	17.5%
Victims of Crime Fund	1,200,433	27.8%	26,557,067	11.1%
Federal Government	1,474	0.0%	2,987,543	1.2%
Late Payment Penalty	556,020	12.9%	15,430,037	6.4%
Fine Retention	1,144,910	26.5%	30,694,422	12.8%
Total	4,322,100	100%	240,276,892	100.0%

Fines Imposed – April 2006 to March 2007

Recipient	Number of Fines Imposed	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Fines Imposed	Percent of Total Value
Municipalities	1,080,117	28.8%	$106,910,060	52.0%
Alberta Government	157,354	4.2%	34,299,032	16.7%
Victims of Crime Fund	1,036,116	27.7%	22,939,518	11.2%
Federal Government	1,531	0.0%	1,651,346	0.8%
Late Payment Penalty	487,257	13.0%	13,338,170	6.5%
Fine Retention	985,628	26.3%	26,383,537	12.8%
Total	3,748,003	100.0%	$205,521,663	100.0%

Fine Payments – April 2007 to March 2008

Recipient	Number of Fine Payments	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Fine Payments	Percent of Total Value
Municipalities	1,151,633	28.1%	108,233,952	52.6%
Alberta Government	181,609	4.4%	31,489,373	15.3%
Victims of Crime Fund	1,130,613	27.6%	22,695,672	11.0%
Federal Government	2,217	0.1%	1,960,313	1.0%
Late Payment Penalty	544,226	13.3%	14,667,366	7.1%
Fine Retention	1,088,408	26.5%	26,630,228	13.0%
Total	4,098,706	100.0%	205,676,904	100.0%

Fine Payments – April 2006 to March 2007

Recipient	Number of Fine Payments	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Fine Payments	Percent of Total Value
Municipalities	1,053,830	28.8%	$ 96,332,774	53.6%
Alberta Government	144,227	3.9%	25,545,928	14.2%
Victims of Crime Fund	1,000,686	27.3%	19,780,718	11.0%
Federal Government	2,138	0.1%	1,759,079	1.0%
Late Payment Penalty	504,432	13.8%	13,315,937	7.4%
Fine Retention	956,418	26.1%	22,940,782	12.8%
Total	3,661,731	100.0%	$179,675,218	100.0%

Uncollectible Fines – April 2007 to March 2008

Recipient	Number of Uncollectible Fines	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Uncollectible Fines	Percent of Total Value
Municipalities	48,101	40.2%	5,031,031	47.6%
Alberta Government	14,390	12.0%	3,382,285	32.0%
Victims of Crime Fund	4,474	3.8%	232,486	2.2%
Federal Government	579	0.5%	791,579	7.5%
Late Payment Penalty	52,054	43.5%	1,136,443	10.7%
Fine Retention	Not available		Not available	
Total	119,598	100.0%	10,573,824	100.0%

Uncollectible Fines – April 2006 to March 2007

Recipient	Number of Uncollectible Fines	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Uncollectible Fines	Percent of Total Value
Municipalities	48,587	39.5%	$ 4,873,638	49.8%
Alberta Government	15,349	12.5%	3,279,744	33.5%
Victims of Crime Fund	5,267	4.3%	257,729	2.6%
Federal Government	507	0.4%	246,199	2.5%
Late Payment Penalty	53,225	43.3%	1,132,651	11.6%
Fine Retention	Not available		Not available	
Total	122,935	100.0%	$ 9,789,961	100.0%

Outstanding Fines – at March 31, 2008

Recipient	Number of Outstanding Fines	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Outstanding Fines	Percent of Total Value
Municipalities	538,477	30.9%	84,592,656	49.8%
Alberta Government	130,116	7.5%	42,847,053	25.2%
Victims of Crime Fund	29,900	1.7%	1,916,180	1.1%
Federal Government	3,482	0.2%	5,622,003	3.3%
Late Payment Penalty	571,172	32.8%	16,979,559	10.0%
Fine Retention	468,600	26.9%	17,938,145	10.6%
Total	1,741,747	100.0%	169,895,596	100.0%

Outstanding Fines – at March 31, 2007

Recipient	Number of Outstanding Fines	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Outstanding Fines	Percent of Total Value
Municipalities	521,413	31.6%	$ 79,412,467	50.1%
Alberta Government	121,484	7.3%	40,378,205	25.5%
Victims of Crime Fund	30,872	1.9%	1,977,704	1.2%
Federal Government	3,693	0.2%	5,269,652	3.3%
Late Payment Penalty	546,319	33.1%	15,611,201	9.9%
Fine Retention	427,595	25.9%	15,832,786	10.0%
Total	1,651,376	100.0%	$158,482,015	100.0%

Fine Collection Cost Estimates

Overview

Costing methodologies have been developed to estimate the cost of collecting a provincial statute fine and the cost of collecting a federal statute (*Criminal Code* and other) fine. The estimated cost of collecting a provincial statute fine is related to the number of violation tickets received by all Provincial Court offices in Alberta. The estimated cost of collecting a federal statute fine is related to the approximate number of Fine Orders in all Provincial Court offices. The estimated costs are those incurred by Alberta Justice in Court Services, Criminal Justice and Corporate Services programs.

Estimated Cost of Collecting a Provincial Statute Fine – 2007/08 and 2006/07

There were 1.497 million violation tickets received by all Provincial Court offices in 2007/08 and 1.324 million in 2006/07. The major cost components for Court Services are the Calgary and Edmonton Provincial Traffic Courts, ticket processing costs in the Regional Provincial Courts and the cost of violation ticket printing and direct general and regional overhead expenditures. Criminal Justice costs include paralegal prosecutors and support staff and first appearance centres in Calgary and Edmonton. Corporate Services costs are for the operation and maintenance of the Justice Online Information Network (JOIN) system applicable to violation tickets and for postage and handling of the Notice of Conviction mail-outs.

The table below summarizes the provincial statute and municipal bylaw fine payments received and the cost for violation tickets received by all provincial courts.

Total Provincial Statute and Municipal Bylaw Payments Received

		2007/08	2006/07
Provincial Acts - Fine and Surcharge		$168,202,725	$145,848,196
Municipal Bylaw		9,987,574	8,458,569
Late Payment Penalty		13,499,824	12,236,876
Total Violation Ticket Payments	A	$191,690,123	$166,543,641
Cost for Violation Tickets Received by All Courts			
Total Estimated Cost	B	$ 26,089,874	$ 21,849,168
Cost per Dollar Collected (B/A)		$ 0.14	$ 0.13

Estimated Cost of Collecting a Federal Statute Fine –2007/08 and 2006/07

There were 28,736 Fine Orders in all Provincial Court offices in 2007/08 and 28,414 in 2006/07. The major cost components for Court Services are the salary and benefit costs of court staff and Provincial Court judges with associated supplies and services costs. Criminal Justice costs are primarily the salary and benefit costs of the Crown prosecutors. Corporate Services costs are for the operation and maintenance of the JOIN system applicable to criminal case tracking. Corporate Services also pays for the salary and other operating costs for the Fines Enforcement Unit who collects *Criminal Code* fines on behalf of all courts in the province.

The table below summarizes the federal statute fine payments received and the cost for all Fine Orders prepared by all Provincial Court offices.

Total Federal Statute Payments Received

		2007/08	2006/07
Federal Acts - Fine and Surcharge	A	$11,989,264	$11,326,086

Cost for Fine Orders by All Courts

Court Services and Criminal Justice		$19,722,283	$18,343,444
Corporate Services		911,623	647,833
Total Estimated Cost	B	$20,633,906	$18,991,277
Cost per Dollar Collected (B/A)		$ 1.72	$ 1.68

SUPPLEMENTARY MINISTRY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Financial Information

Office of the Public Trustee

Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2008

AUDITED

CONTENTS OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC TRUSTEE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Auditor's Report 97

Balance Sheet 98

Statement of Changes in Net Assets 99

Common Fund Statement of Operations 100

Notes to the Financial Statements 101

AUDITOR GENERAL *Alberta*

Auditor's Report

To the Minister of Justice and Attorney General

I have audited the balance sheet of the Office of the Public Trustee, Estates and Trusts as at March 31, 2008 and the statement of changes in net assets and the common fund statement of operations for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the management of the Office of the Public Trustee. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Office of the Public Trustee, Estates and Trusts as at March 31, 2008, and the changes in net assets and the results of operations for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Fred J. Dunn FCA
Auditor General

Edmonton, Alberta
May 16, 2008

Office of the Public Trustee
Estates and Trusts
Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2008

($000)

	2008	2007
COMMON FUND ASSETS		
Cash (Note 4)	$ 12,316	$ 23,755
Accrued Investment Income	6,455	8,748
Investments (Note 5)	423,771	394,901
	442,542	427,404
Client Guaranteed Accounts (Note 2(a))	(378,777)	(373,757)
	63,765	53,647
CLIENT ASSETS		
Client Guaranteed Accounts	378,777	373,757
Accounts Receivable (Note 2(d(i)))	4,189	3,541
Securities and Investments (Note 6)	46,202	40,319
Real Estate Holdings (Note 2(d(iii)))	25,082	16,474
Personal Property and Other Assets (Note 2(d(iv)))	1,129	1,673
	455,379	435,764
TOTAL ASSETS	$519,144	$489,411
COMMON FUND LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ 1,280	$ -
CLIENT LIABILITIES		
Advances from Ministry of Finance and Enterprise	24	24
Accounts, Mortgages and Notes Payable (Note 2(d(v)))	8,763	8,333
Estate Administration Fees Payable to the Public Trustee	7,248	7,700
	16,035	16,057
	17,315	16,057
NET ASSETS ADMINISTERED		
Common Fund	62,485	53,647
Client Assets	439,344	419,707
	501,829	473,354
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS ADMINISTERED	$519,144	$489,411

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Office of the Public Trustee
Estates and Trusts
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Administered
For the Year ended March 31, 2008

($000)

	2008	2007
SOURCE OF ASSETS		
Client Pensions, Benefits, Settlements and Other Funds Received	$ 76,790	$ 77,576
Client Assets Acquired During the Year	39,816	18,093
Income Earned on Common Fund Investments (Note 2(c))	27,919	21,962
Dividends, royalty and other income from Client Investments	1,415	1,737
TOTAL ASSETS ACQUIRED	145,940	119,368
DISPOSITION OF ASSETS		
Distributions to Beneficiaries	46,490	53,282
Payments for Care and Maintenance of Clients	44,704	42,489
Assets Released to Clients	16,862	19,769
Taxes Paid on Behalf of Clients	3,044	3,082
Estate Administration Fees Paid to Public Trustee (Note 2(e))	5,015	5,609
Common Fund Operating Expenses	1,350	967
TOTAL DISPOSITION OF ASSETS	117,465	125,198
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN ASSETS ADMINISTERED	28,475	(5,830)
NET ASSETS ADMINISTERED - BEGINNING OF YEAR	473,354	479,184
NET ASSETS ADMINISTERED- END OF YEAR	$501,829	$473,354

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Office of the Public Trustee
Estates and Trusts
Common Fund Statement of Operations
For the Year ended March 31, 2008

($000)

	2008	2007
REVENUE		
Revenue from investments	$ 19,528	$ 21,404
Gain on sale of investments (Note 5)	7,419	-
Interest from cash deposits	857	558
Recovery of prior period expenses	115	-
	27,919	21,962
EXPENSES		
General expenses	142	209
Assurance payments (Note 7)	24	134
Common Fund transfer (Note 2(g))	1,184	624
	1,350	967
NET OPERATING INCOME	26,569	20,995
INTEREST PAID TO CLIENTS (Note 2(f))	17,731	19,254
NET INCREASE IN COMMON FUND NET ASSETS	8,838	1,741
COMMON FUND NET ASSETS – BEGINNING OF YEAR	53,647	51,906
COMMON FUND NET ASSETS – END OF YEAR	$ 62,485	$ 53,647

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Office of the Public Trustee
Estates and Trusts
Notes to the Financial Statements
March 31, 2008

Note 1 Authority

The Public Trustee of Alberta operates under the authority of the *Public Trustee Act*, SA 2004, C.P. 44.1, ("the Act").

The Public Trustee of Alberta ("Public Trustee") protects the financial interests of vulnerable Albertans by administering the estates of dependent adults, decedents and minors.

The Ministry of Justice of Alberta ("the Ministry") is accountable for the Office of the Public Trustee as a part of the Ministry. These financial statements reflect the trust assets and related income and expenses, including estate administration fees charged by the Office of the Public Trustee. The Ministry pays the entire cost of operating the Office of the Public Trustee and the fees charged by the Office of the Public Trustee are paid to the Ministry. These amounts can be found in the financial statements of the Ministry.

Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices

These financial statements are prepared, by management, in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for the public sector as recommended by the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants and are expressed in Canadian dollars. Because the precise determination of many assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses is dependent on future events, the preparation of financial statements for a period necessarily includes the use of estimates and approximations, which have been made using careful judgement. In particular, the fair value of many assets is estimated at the time the Office of the Public Trustee assumes the responsibility for the asset. Actual results could differ from those estimates. In management's opinion, these financial statements have been properly prepared within reasonable limits of materiality and within the framework of the accounting principles summarized below.

(a) Common Fund and Client Guaranteed Accounts

The *Public Trustee Act* Section 31(2) requires (with certain exceptions) that the money received by the Public Trustee for a client to be paid into the common fund. Section 33(3) requires any amount paid into the common fund for a client under section 31(2) to be credited to the client's guaranteed account with the Public Trustee.

Section 31(4) of the Act states that no client or other person has any claim to or against the common fund except as provided by section 33. Section 33(6) states that the amount outstanding on a client's guaranteed account is a charge against the assets of the common fund and is unconditionally guaranteed by the Crown.

Note 2 Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices (cont'd)

Section 32(1) of the Act states that assets may be transferred out of the common fund only as expressly required or permitted under the Act. Section 32(2) allows funds to be transferred out of the common fund to pay the client, to pay an expense or liability of the client (including Public Trustee fees authorized by section 40), or similar purposes. Amounts transferred from the common fund under section 32(2) are deducted from the client's guaranteed account (section 33(4)). Section 32(3) allows the Public Trustee to transfer amounts from the common fund to cover expenses of operating the common fund (e.g. bank charges, custodianship fees, investment advisors fees). Section 32(4) allows the Public Trustee, in accordance with the regulations, to transfer amounts from the common fund to be applied to the cost of administering the Act. Amounts transferred from the common fund under either section 32(3) or section 32(4) are not deducted from clients' guaranteed accounts (section 32(5)), but are charged against common fund operations.

Section 34 of the Act states that the Public Trustee, in accordance with regulations, sets the interest rate to be credited to client guaranteed accounts.

(b) Common Fund Investments

Common fund investments are recorded at cost. They include bonds, mortgages, equity investments and cash. Investment income is accrued as earned. Purchase price premiums or discounts are amortized on a straight-line basis over the remaining term of the investment.

Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the investments are not exposed to significant interest, currency, credit or market risks. The fair values of these investments approximate their carrying values unless otherwise noted.

(c) Revenue

All revenues are reported on the accrual basis of accounting.

(d) Client's Assets and Liabilities Outside of Common Fund

(i) *Accounts Receivable*

Client accounts receivable include pension and other benefits, life insurance policies, mortgages, leases and other miscellaneous receivables.

Pension plans with a guaranteed minimum payment are recorded at a nominal value of $1 and adjusted to actual amount at the date of death of the client. Plans where there is no residual value are recorded at a nominal value of $1.

Life insurance policies that carry a cash surrender value are stated at cash surrender value. Policies that do not carry a cash surrender value are recorded at a nominal value of $1.

All other receivables are recorded at their face value.

Note 2 Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices (cont'd)

(ii) *Securities and Investments*

Client securities and investments, held for clients outside the common fund, consist of bonds, annuities, shares, RRSPs, term deposits, guaranteed investment certificates and other investments. Annuities are recorded at the present value of their guaranteed term. If there is not a guaranteed term, the annuity is recorded at a nominal value of $1. Other client securities and investments are recorded at their market value at the time the Office of the Public Trustee assumes responsibility for the investment.

Where a market value for an investment is not readily available, the investment is recorded at a nominal value of $1. The carrying value of the investment is adjusted to market value if one subsequently becomes available.

(iii) *Real Estate Holdings*

Client real estate holdings are recorded at the property tax assessment value at the time the Office of the Public Trustee assumes responsibility for the property. Buildings and other depreciable assets are not depreciated in future periods after the initial value is determined.

Where the tax assessed value for property is not readily available, for example with foreign property, the property is recorded at a nominal value of $1. The carrying value of the property is adjusted to a tax assessed value if one subsequently becomes available.

(iv) *Personal Property and Other Assets*

Client personal property and other assets are recorded at a nominal value of $1 at the time the Office of the Public Trustee assumes responsibility for the assets.

The nominal value of jewellery, collectibles, mobile homes, and interests in insurance policies is adjusted to fair value when it becomes available.

(v) *Accounts Payable, Mortgages and Notes Payable*

Client accounts payable, mortgages and loans payable represent encumbrances of client assets that are payable to independent third parties. These client obligations are settled as client resources become available. In some cases, a client's liabilities exceed the stated value of his/her assets. These items are included as accounts payable and are paid as the resources of the client become available. The carrying value of these liabilities approximates fair value.

Note 2 Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices (cont'd)

(e) Estate Administration Fees Paid to Public Trustee

Public Trustee fees on all official guardian accounts are calculated and collected in the month of the annual anniversary of the opening of the file. Fees are accrued for the period from the anniversary date to the balance sheet date. For accounts opened prior to January 1, 2005 a one-time calculation of fees on official guardian accounts was completed to December 31, 2004 and recorded as a liability. These fees will be collected from the client at the end of the Public Trustee's administration.

Public Trustee fees for dependent adult accounts are calculated and collected annually on the trust's anniversary date. Fees are accrued for the period from the anniversary date to the balance sheet date.

Public Trustee fees on decedent accounts are not charged until the trust or account is distributed. Due to the uncertainty with respect to the ultimate amount that will be charged and the short-term nature of the administration, no provision is made for these fees until the amount becomes known.

In addition to the above stated administration fees the Public Trustee may, in accordance with section 40(1)(a) of the Act, charge the client any fee that the Public Trustee deems is reasonable for any service, including legal services, that the Public Trustee provides to the client or for a task or function performed by the Public Trustee for the benefit of the client. Under section 40(1)(b), the Public Trustee is entitled to collect from the client any expense reasonably incurred on the client's behalf.

(f) Interest Paid to Clients

Section 34 of the Act states that the Public Trustee shall set the interest rate for each category of guaranteed accounts in accordance with the regulation. Interest must be credited to guaranteed accounts in accordance to this section and the regulation. Interest is calculated on the minimum daily balance of each client's account and is credited to the client's account monthly. The interest rate as at March 31, 2008 is 4.5% (2007 – 5%).

(g) Common Fund Transfer

The Public Trustee, in accordance with section 32(4) of the Act and the regulation, may transfer amounts from the common fund to the General Revenue Fund to be applied to the cost of administering the Act. Up to a maximum of 1% of the prior year's Net Assets Administered may be transferred annually to the Ministry of Finance and Enterprise to fund specific initiatives that have been approved by Treasury Board.

Note 3 Change in Application of Administrative Policies

During the year, the Office of the Public Trustee undertook a project to revise a number of its administrative policies and procedures for valuation of client assets and liabilities. The valuation of client assets was increased by $4,000,000 and client liabilities were decreased by $500,000 in the current year, with no retroactive restatement of prior year values.

Note 4 Cash

Cash includes deposits in the Consolidated Cash Investment Trust Fund (CCITF) of the Province of Alberta. The Ministry of Finance and Enterprise manages the CCITF with the objective of providing competitive interest income to depositors while maintaining appropriate security and liquidity of depositors' capital. The portfolio is comprised of high quality short-term and mid-term fixed income securities with a maximum term to maturity of three years. As at March 31, 2008, securities held by the CCITF have an average effective market yield of 4.81% per annum (March 31, 2007 4.36% per annum). Due to the short-term nature of these investments, the carrying value approximates fair value.

Note 5 Investments

(in thousands)

The table below represents the investment asset mix and for fixed income investments shows the remaining terms to maturity and interest rates as of March 31, 2008.

	0 to 5 years	5 to 10 years	Over 10 years	2008	2007
Government of Canada bonds Interest rate	$ 49,122 3.7% to 4.65%	-	$ 1,342 5.0% to 8.0%	$ 50,464	$ 69,372
Province of Alberta bonds Interest rate	$ 19,515 4.5% to 5.85%	$ 540 4.65%	-	$ 20,055	$ 21,427
Other Provinces bonds Interest rate	$ 157,652 4.4% to 11.0%	$ 3,643 4.2% to 4.5%	$ 7,240 5.6% to 8.5%	$ 168,535	$ 248,359
Municipal bonds Interest rate	$ 31,922 5.8% to 5.9%	-	-	$ 31,922	$ 6,086
Corporations bonds Interest rate	$ 64,804 4.17% to 4.93%	$ 46,810 4.55% and at variable rates	$ 22,185 at variable rates	$ 133,799	$ 38,595
ATB Financial bonds Interest rate	$ 5,927 4.1%	-	-	$ 5,927	$ 11,062
Mortgages Interest rate	-	$ 976 4.52% and 5.52%	-	$ 976	-
Equity Investments	$ 4,946			$ 4,946	-
Cash and Cash Equivalent	$ 7,147	-	-	$ 7,147	-
Total	$ 341,035	$ 51,969	$ 30,767	$ 423,771	$ 394,901
Market Value – March 31, 2008				$ 431,722	$ 416,462

Note 5 Investments (cont'd)

During the year, the investment policy was revised. A new Common Fund Statement of Investment Policies and Goals was approved. In management's opinion, the structure of the investment portfolio complies with the established guidelines and has minimal risk.

The Office of the Public Trustee also retained the services of an outside investment manager to manage the common fund investment portfolio. The portfolio was restructured in accordance with the revised investment policy. All previous investments were sold in August 2007 resulting in a gain of $7,327,000.

Note 6 Client Assets - Securities and Investments

(in thousands)

Client securities and investments consist of:

	2008	2007
Term and RRSP Deposits	$ 10,885	$ 5,968
Government of Canada Bonds	964	539
Shares and Other Securities	34,353	33,812
Total	$ 46,202	$ 40,319

Due to the numerous unique client investments, it is not practical to determine market value or disclose rates of return on these investments.

Note 7 Assurance Payments

Section 35(1) of the Act states that the Minister may authorize an amount to be transferred from the common fund to a person who has suffered a loss as a result of an act or omission of the Public Trustee, if the Public Trustee certifies that it is just and equitable to make the payment. Under section 35(2) the amount of the claim may not exceed the amount by which the value of the assets of the common fund exceeds the total amount outstanding on guaranteed accounts immediately before the payment. During the year, the Office of the Public Trustee made assurance payments of $24,000 (2007 - $134,000).

Note 8 Contingent Liabilities

(in thousands)

At March 31, 2008, the Public Trustee is a defendant in ten legal claims (2007 – eight legal claims). Seven of these claims have specified amounts totalling $938,388 and the remaining three have no specified amount (2007 – seven claims with a specified amount of $938,388 and one with no specified amount). Included in the total legal claims are four claims amounting to $916,000 (2007 – 4 claims amounting to $916,000) in which the Public Trustee has been jointly named with other entities. Nine claims amounting to $929,950 (2007 – seven claims totalling $925,650) are covered by the Alberta Risk Management Fund.

Note 9 Statement of Cash Flows

A statement of cash flows has not been included in these financial statements as the cash flow information is readily apparent from the other statements

Note 10 Comparative Figures

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

Note 11 Approval of Financial Statements

The Deputy Minister of Justice and Attorney General and the Public Trustee approved these financial statements.

Alphabetical List of Entities' Financial Statements in Ministry 2007-08 Annual Reports

ENTITIES INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY

Ministry, Department, Fund or Agency	*Ministry Annual Report*
Access to the Future Fund	Advanced Education and Technology
Agriculture Financial Services Corporation	Agriculture and Food
Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission	Health and Wellness
Alberta Cancer Prevention Legacy Fund	Finance
Alberta Capital Finance Authority	Finance
Alberta Energy and Utilities Board[1]	Energy
Alberta Foundation for the Arts	Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture
Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission	Solicitor General and Public Security
Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research Endowment Fund	Finance
Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund	Finance
Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund	Finance
Alberta Heritage Science and Engineering Research Endowment Fund	Finance
Alberta Historical Resources Foundation	Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture
Alberta Insurance Council	Finance
Alberta Investment Management Corporation[2]	Finance
Alberta Local Authorities Pension Plan Corporation	Finance
Alberta Pensions Administration Corporation	Finance
Alberta Petroleum Marketing Commission	Energy
Alberta Research Council Inc.	Advanced Education and Technology
Alberta Risk Management Fund	Finance
Alberta School Foundation Fund	Education
Alberta Securities Commission	Finance
Alberta Social Housing Corporation	Municipal Affairs and Housing
Alberta Sport, Recreation, Parks and Wildlife Foundation	Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture
Alberta Treasury Branches	Finance
Alberta Utilities Commission[1]	Energy
ATB Insurance Advisors Inc.	Finance
ATB Investment Management Inc.	Finance
ATB Investment Services Inc.	Finance
ATB Securities Inc.	Finance
Child and Family Services Authorities:	Children's Services
Calgary and Area Child and Family Services Authority	
Central Alberta Child and Family Services Authority	
East Central Alberta Child and Family Services Authority	
Edmonton and Area Child and Family Services Authority	
North Central Alberta Child and Family Services Authority	
Northeast Alberta Child and Family Services Authority	
Northwest Alberta Child and Family Services Authority	
Southeast Alberta Child and Family Services Authority	
Southwest Alberta Child and Family Services Authority	
Metis Settlements Child and Family Services Authority	
C-FER Technologies (1999) Inc.	Advanced Education and Technology
Climate Change and Emissions Management Fund[3]	Environment
Credit Union Deposit Guarantee Corporation	Finance

[1] Effective January 1, 2008, the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board was realigned into two separate regulatory bodies: the Alberta Utilities Commission and the Energy Resources Conservation Board.

[2] Began operations January 1, 2008.

[3] Began operations July 1, 2007.

Alphabetical List of Entities' Financial Statements in Ministry 2007-08 Annual Reports (Continued)

ENTITIES INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY

Ministry, Department, Fund or Agency	*Ministry Annual Report*
Colleges:	Advanced Education and Technology
Alberta College of Art and Design	
Bow Valley College	
Grande Prairie Regional College	
Grant MacEwan College	
Keyano College	
Lakeland College	
Lethbridge Community College	
Medicine Hat College	
Mount Royal College	
NorQuest College	
Northern Lakes College	
Olds College	
Portage College	
Red Deer College	
Department of Advanced Education and Technology	Advanced Education and Technology
Department of Agriculture and Food	Agriculture and Food
Department of Children's Services	Children's Services
Department of Education	Education
Department of Energy	Energy
Department of Finance	Finance
Department of Environment	Environment
Department of Health and Wellness	Health and Wellness
Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing	Municipal Affairs and Housing
Department of Seniors and Community Supports	Seniors and Community Supports
Department of Solicitor General and Public Security	Solicitor General and Public Security
Department of Sustainable Resource Development	Sustainable Resource Development
Department of Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture	Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture
Energy Resources Conservation Board[1]	Energy
Environmental Protection and Enhancement Fund	Sustainable Resource Development
Gainers Inc.	Finance
Government House Foundation	Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture
Historic Resources Fund	Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture
Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Education Fund	Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture
iCORE Inc.	Advanced Education and Technology
Lottery Fund	Solicitor General and Public Security
Ministry of Advanced Education and Technology	Advanced Education and Technology
Ministry of Agriculture and Food	Agriculture and Food
Ministry of Children's Services	Children's Services
Ministry of Education	Education
Ministry of Employment, Immigration and Industry[2]	Employment, Immigration and Industry
Ministry of Energy	Energy
Ministry of Environment	Environment
Ministry of Executive Council[2]	Executive Council
Ministry of Finance	Finance
Ministry of Health and Wellness	Health and Wellness
Ministry of Infrastructure and Transportation[2]	Infrastructure and Transportation

[1] Effective January 1, 2008, the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board was realigned into two separate regulatory bodies: the Alberta Utilities Commission and the Energy Resources Conservation Board.

[2] Ministry includes only the departments so separate departmental financial statements are not necessary.

Alphabetical List of Entities' Financial Statements in Ministry 2007-08 Annual Reports (Continued)

ENTITIES INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY

Ministry, Department, Fund or Agency	*Ministry Annual Report*
Ministry of International, Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Relations[4]	International, Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Relations
Ministry of Justice and Attorney General[4]	Justice and Attorney General
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing	Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ministry of Seniors and Community Supports	Seniors and Community Supports
Ministry of Service Alberta [4]	Service Alberta
Ministry of Solicitor General and Public Security	Solicitor General and Public Security
Ministry of Sustainable Resource Development	Sustainable Resource Development
Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture	Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture
Ministry of the Treasury Board [4]	Treasury Board
N.A. Properties (1994) Ltd.	Finance
Natural Resources Conservation Board	Sustainable Resource Development
Persons with Developmental Disabilities Community Boards:	Seniors and Community Supports
Calgary Region Community Board	
Central Region Community Board	
Edmonton Region Community Board	
Northeast Region Community Board	
Northwest Region Community Board	
South Region Community Board	
Persons with Developmental Disabilities Provincial Board[5]	Seniors and Community Supports
Provincial Judges and Masters in Chambers Reserve Fund	Finance
Regional Health Authorities and Provincial Health Boards:	Health and Wellness
Alberta Cancer Board	
Alberta Mental Health Board	
Aspen Regional Health Authority	
Calgary Health Region	
Capital Health	
Chinook Regional Health Authority	
David Thompson Regional Health Authority	
East Central Health	
Health Quality Council of Alberta	
Northern Lights Health Region	
Peace Country Health	
Palliser Health Region	
Safety Codes Council	Municipal Affairs and Housing
School Boards and Charter Schools:	Education
Almadina School Society	
Aspen View Regional Division No. 19	
Aurora School Ltd.	
Battle River Regional Division No. 31	
Black Gold Regional Division No. 18	
Boyle Street Education Centre	
Buffalo Trail Public Schools Regional Division No. 28	
Calgary Arts Academy Society	
Calgary Girls' School Society	
Calgary Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 1	
Calgary School District No. 19	
Calgary Science School Society	
Canadian Rockies Regional Division No. 12	

[4] Ministry includes only the departments so separate departmental financial statements are not necessary.
[5] Ceased operations June 30, 2006

Alphabetical List of Entities' Financial Statements in Ministry 2007-08 Annual Reports (Continued)

ENTITIES INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY

Ministry, Department, Fund or Agency	*Ministry Annual Report*
CAPE-Centre for Academic and Personal Excellence Institute	
Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73	
Christ the Redeemer Catholic Separate Regional Division No. 3	
Clearview School Division No. 71	
East Central Alberta Catholic Separate Schools Regional Division No. 16	
East Central Francophone Education Region No. 3	
Edmonton Catholic Separate School District No. 7	
Edmonton School District No. 7	
Elk Island Catholic Separate Regional Division No. 41	
Elk Island Public Schools Regional Division No. 14	
Evergreen Catholic Separate Regional Division No. 2	
FFCA Charter School Society	
Foothills School Division No. 38	
Fort McMurray Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 32	
Fort McMurray School District No. 2833	
Fort Vermilion School Division No. 52	
Golden Hills School Division No. 75	
Grande Prairie Public School District No. 2357	
Grande Prairie Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 28	
Grande Yellowhead Regional Division No. 35	
Grasslands Regional Division No. 6	
Greater North Central Francophone Education Region No. 2	
Greater Southern Public Francophone Education Region No. 4	
Greater Southern Separate Catholic Francophone Education Region No. 4	
Greater St. Albert Catholic Regional Division No. 29	
High Prairie School Division No. 48	
Holy Family Catholic Regional Division No. 37	
Holy Spirit Roman Catholic Separate Regional Division No. 4	
Horizon School Division No. 67	
Lakeland Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 150	
Lethbridge School District No. 51	
Living Waters Catholic Regional Division No. 42	
Livingstone Range School Division No. 68	
Medicine Hat Catholic Separate Regional Division No. 20	
Medicine Hat School District No. 76	
Moberly Hall School Society	
Mother Earth's Children's Charter School Society	
New Horizons Charter School Society	
Northern Gateway Regional Division No. 10	
Northern Lights School Division No. 69	
Northland School Division No. 61	
Northwest Francophone Education Region No. 1	
Palliser Regional Division No. 26	
Parkland School Division No. 70	
Peace River School Division No. 10	
Peace Wapiti School Division No. 76	
Pembina Hills Regional Division No. 7	
Prairie Land Regional Division No. 25	
Prairie Rose School Division No. 8	
Red Deer Catholic Regional Division No. 39	

Alphabetical List of Entities' Financial Statements in Ministry 2007-08 Annual Reports (Continued)

ENTITIES INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY

Ministry, Department, Fund or Agency	*Ministry Annual Report*
Red Deer School District No. 104	
Rocky View School Division No. 41	
St. Albert Protestant Separate School District No. 6	
St. Paul Education Regional Division No. 1	
St. Thomas Aquinas Roman Catholic Separate Regional Division No. 38	
Sturgeon School Division No. 24	
Suzuki Charter School Society	
Westmount Charter School Society	
Westwind School Division No. 74	
Wetaskiwin Regional Division No. 11	
Wild Rose School Division No. 66	
Wolf Creek School Division No. 72	
Supplementary Retirement Plan Reserve Fund	Finance
Technical Institutes and The Banff Centre:	Advanced Education and Technology
Northern Alberta Institute of Technology	
Southern Alberta Institute of Technology	
The Banff Centre for Continuing Education	
Universities:	Advanced Education and Technology
Athabasca University	
The University of Alberta	
The University of Calgary	
The University of Lethbridge	
Victims of Crime Fund	Solicitor General and Public Security
Wild Rose Foundation	Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture

ENTITIES NOT INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY

Fund or Agency	*Ministry Annual Report*
Alberta Foundation for Health Research	Advanced Education and Technology
Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research	Advanced Education and Technology
Alberta Heritage Foundation for Science and Engineering Research	Advanced Education and Technology
Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund Board	Education
Improvement Districts' Trust Account	Municipal Affairs and Housing
Local Authorities Pension Plan	Finance
Long-Term Disability Income Continuance Plan - Bargaining Unit	Service Alberta
Long-Term Disability Income Continuance Plan - Management, Opted Out and Excluded	Service Alberta
Management Employees Pension Plan	Finance
Provincial Judges and Masters in Chambers Pension Plan	Finance
Provincial Judges and Masters in Chambers (Unregistered) Pension Plan	Finance
Public Service Management (Closed Membership) Pension Plan	Finance
Public Service Pension Plan	Finance
Special Areas Trust Account	Municipal Affairs and Housing
Special Forces Pension Plan	Finance
Supplementary Retirement Plan for Public Service Managers	Finance
Workers' Compensation Board	Employment, Immigration and Industry

Government Organization Changes 2008-09

GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION CHANGES 2008-09

Ministry	Program/Element/Entity Changes	Previous Location	New Location
Aboriginal Relations	< Aboriginal Governance, Consultation and Economic Development	< Former International, Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Relations	
	< First Nations Development Fund	< Former Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture	
Advanced Education and Technology	< no change		
Agriculture and Rural Development	< Rural Development	< Former Employment, Immigration and Industry	
Children and Youth Services (formerly Children's Services)	< Women's Issues	< Former Employment, Immigration and Industry	
Culture and Community Spirit	< Culture, Community Lottery Grants, Heritage, Human Rights and Citizenship	< Former Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture	
	< Alberta Foundation for the Arts		
	< Alberta Historical Resources Foundation		
	< Government House Foundation		
	< Historic Resources Fund		
	< Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Education Fund		
	< Wild Rose Foundation		
	< Community and Voluntary Services	< Former Municipal Affairs and Housing	
Education	< no change		
Employment and Immigration	< Francophone Secretariat	< Former Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture	
	< except Rural Development		< Agriculture and Rural Development
	< except Economic Development		< Finance and Enterprise, and International and Intergovernmental Relations
	< except Northern Alberta Development Council		< Finance and Enterprise
	< except Alberta Economic Development Authority		
	< except Women's Issues		< Children and Youth Services
Energy	< no change		
Environment	< no change		
Executive Council	< no change		
Finance and Enterprise	< Regulatory Review Secretariat	< Service Alberta	
	< Economic Development, except Investment Attraction	< Former Employment, Immigration and Industry	
	< Northern Alberta Development Council		
	< Alberta Economic Development Authority		
Health and Wellness	< no change		

Government Organization Changes 2008-09 (Continued)

Ministry	Program/Element/Entity Changes	Previous Location	New Location
Housing and Urban Affairs	< Housing Services < Alberta Social Housing Corporation	< Former Municipal Affairs and Housing	
Infrastructure	< except Provincial Highway Systems and Safety	< Former Infrastructure and Transportation	< Transportation
International and Intergovernmental Relations	< except Aboriginal Governance, Consultation and Economic Development		< Aboriginal Relations
	< Investment Attraction	< Former Employment, Immigration and Industry	
Justice and Attorney General	< no change		
Municipal Affairs	< except Housing Services		< Housing and Urban Affairs
	< except Alberta Social Housing Corporation		
	< except Community and Voluntary Services		< Culture and Community Spirit
Seniors and Community Supports	< no change		
Service Alberta	< except Regulatory Review Secretariat		< Finance and Enterprise
	< except Personnel Administration Office		< Treasury Board
	< except Aircraft Services		
Solicitor General and Public Security	< no change		
Sustainable Resource Development	< no change		
Tourism, Parks and Recreation	< except First Nations Development Fund		< Aboriginal Relations
	< except Culture, Community Lottery Grants, Heritage, Human Rights and Citizenship		< Culture and Community Spirit
	< except Alberta Foundation for the Arts		
	< except Alberta Historical Resources Foundation		
	< except Government House Foundation		
	< except Historic Resources Fund		
	< except Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Education Fund		
	< except Wild Rose Foundation		
	< except Francophone Secretariat		< Employment and Immigration
Transportation	< Provincial Highway Systems and Safety	< Former Infrastructure and Transportation	
Treasury Board	< Corporate Human Resources (formerly Personnel Administration Office)	< Service Alberta	
	< Aircraft Services		

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